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POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL AFFAIRS

No. 1144



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INTERNATIONAL

AYSHE SEYTMURATOVA DENOUNCED IN SOVIET CRIMEAN TATAR PAPER

Tashkent LENIN BAYRAGHI in Crimean Tatar 7 Mar 81 p 3

[Letter by Dilyaver Kel'mambetov: "The Names of Our Women"]

[Text] Women...

...Had I been Prometheus, I would have taken the sun and spread its light on mothers. And I would have said: "May it burn for the rest of your lives, may there be no more dark days on the face of the earth." Sh. Selimov
[in boldface].

The dearest name to mankind is "mother." My mother's name was Azize. She was killed during the Great Fatherland War but her holy qualities will live forever in my memory, in my heart; they will be a part of my soul. I remember her hands, face, sweet voice and smile today.

I treasure also the name Alime, Alime Abdennanova. This young legendary heroine of our people is an example of a devoted woman who remained faithful to the fatherland to the last drop of her blood.

Newspapers call Ayshe Abduramanova the "pride of Margylan." After the war I lived in this city and was well acquainted with this young worker in the silk combine. She was extremely productive, honored and highly regarded everywhere. And who does not know Sundus Kartosmanova in Andijan Oblast? She is the head of the cotton brigade in the "Kommunizm" kolkhoz in Altynkul rayon. She bears the Order of Lenin and other high awards of the government on her breast. She is a member of the Andijan party obkom and a Deputy to the Oblast Soviet. Her example inspired the image of Anife in the book of our wonderful writer Yusuf Bolat.

There are many women's names close to the hearts of each of us among our people. We are proud of them. In the first years after the Revolution, in the Great Fatherland War, and now, our women demonstrated bravery, diligence, conscience and devotion. Our esteemed mothers and sisters, we sing to you!

Every people remembers its own heroes and composes ballads, epics and poetry about them. Their names pass from generation to generation. But the names of traitors, as transparent as crystal, are quickly forgotten; in most cases, they are turned into expressions of filth.

Ayshe Seytmuratova has now come to represent such scurrility. This woman left her own mother, her brethren, the fatherland and went to the West. No such traitorous woman ever existed in the history of our people. She has become a toy in the hands of the malicious enemies of the Soviets: they will make her do as they want. They will use her to stain the Soviet structure. None of her new friends is interested in the fate of her relatives or her people. Their major goal is the struggle against the Soviets.

We were born on Crimean soil in the same year as Ayshe. Ayshe's father died in the Great Fatherland War. My fatherland educated me and brought me up. I had known Ayshe well, but now, like hundreds of people, I have a question: who gave her the right to call herself "the sole representative of the people?" They should bear in mind that we are no friends of those using Ayshe as a drum in such an orchestra of social remnants and nationalists.

...There are many refined and charming names of women among our people. Each of them carries their name worthily down the road of life. But Ayshe Seytmuratova could never have done this.

Dilyaver KEL'MAMBETOV

Teacher, City of Andijan

9679

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INTERNATIONAL

ROLE OF WORKING CLASS IN LATIN AMERICA ANALYZED

Moscow LATINSKAYA AMERIKA in Russian No 3, Mar 81 (signed to press 2 Feb 81)
pp 5-21

[Article by B. I. Koval' and Yu. N. Korolev: "The Proletariat Is a Leading Force for Social Progress in Latin America"]

[Excerpts] The more acute the opposition between the new and old worlds becomes, and the more obstacles are created on the path of social progress by the reactionary circles of imperialism, the fuller and brighter the heroic role of the international working class is revealed. In all the major economic, social, and political processes of mankind's present-day life working people have advanced to the forefront as the most active and aggressive social force. Their struggle was and still is the chief engine of progress in its fullest democratic and humanistic sense. Herein is manifested one of the most important aspects of the proletariat's universal, historical mission.

Bourgeois scholarship and propaganda together with "left-wing" and right-wing revisionists deny the leading role of the working class in ensuring social progress. Moreover, there are people who put forth the absurd idea that progress and development would be more rapid and broader if they were not retarded by the proletariat's class resistance and its "anti-productive" strike activities.

In the opinion of bourgeois sociologists the class struggle is not an engine but a brake on progress, and, therefore, the workers should refrain from the struggle and enter into a "useful and constructive" alliance with the bourgeoisie and the capitalist state.

Prescriptions of this type are now being addressed particularly actively to the working classes of the countries of Latin America, Asia, and Africa, which are not supposed to repeat the "mistakes" of the Western European proletariat and should conduct themselves "more patriotically." The thought is sometimes uttered that on the periphery of the capitalist system, and for some reason they insist on relegating Latin America to it, the national bourgeoisie no less than the working people are vitally concerned with ensuring development, and, therefore, it is necessary simply to "aid" this process, having refrained from narrow class and selfish interests.

Life, however, bears witness to something completely different: it is precisely the working class, the laboring strata of the people, and not the bourgeoisie at all, which expresses and defends the national interests, and it is by their struggle

and labor that social progress and development are being achieved.

Formerly, the native bourgeoisie really was the rising class, but as the antagonism between labor and capital intensified, it lost its progressive role. From a progressive class the Latin American bourgeoisie became empty, decadent, and conservative. This trait is particularly inherent in the monopolistic strata. The working class became the rising class--on a broad, historical scale.

The hegemony of the international working class in the world revolutionary process determines the prospects for all social progress, and, in the final analysis, it ensures the transition to socialism.

Proceeding from this criterion, it is important to provide a sober and realistic appraisal of the present-day status of the labor movement in Latin America, to evaluate those shifts which have taken place in the structure and position of the proletariat, and in the development of its revolutionary struggle. Only on this basis can we characterize the change in the position and role of the proletariat as a class in the overall social structure of Latin American society and its political life. In this instance it is a matter of the most numerous class, for the time is already past when workers in Latin America comprised the minority. Many bourgeois authors as before relegate the proletariat to a secondary position, and some of them completely deny its existence as a class, arbitrarily basing their position on the vague concepts of "group," "layer," "stratum," etc., or they just as arbitrarily interpret the concept of the "masses." If the concept of "class" is utilized in the works of non-Marxist sociologists, it is treated most often as a synonym of the concept of "stratum" or "layer."

The concept of elitism, which has become particularly popular in recent years, only partially reflects the genuine state of affairs. In bourgeois society the elite exists as a unique social structure, as a group possessing power and wealth, but it has not lost its class nature because of this, and it remains a privileged upper circle of the exploiter classes. We may relegate to a special elitist group the state bureaucracy, the upper ranks of generals, and others.

The advocates of the concept of elitism and more broadly that of social stratification proceed from a recognition of the complex and heterogeneous composition of bourgeois society, but they strive to present this heterogeneity as something natural and something which will by itself grow into homogeneity. Moreover, in such an interpretation all problems of social conflicts and the class struggle are removed or are simply proclaimed to be invented, in any case, not organically inherent to a capitalist society. The denial of classes in general and the working class in particular is manifested in the methodological approach itself to the study of "strata" as narrowly functional components of the social system as a whole.

On a large scale the "strata" are usually divided into three parts as follows: upper, middle, and lower, which are distinguished from each other merely by the amounts of material wealth: the rich; those who are neither rich nor poor; and the poor. The boundaries between wealth and poverty are established in various ways by each author depending on his own tastes.

The advocates of this "stratification" method attempt to prove the thesis of the insufficiency of the class criterion often on the basis that the classes themselves are subdivided into subgroups and have certain "lubricated" external boundaries which are closely adjacent to the "neighboring" groups and strata. Indeed, the boundaries between social structures are not unilinear; they are more reminiscent of a kind of "gear-type" surface.

Thus, for example, a considerable portion of the rural proletariat retains a peasant psychology, while the large entrepreneurs willingly borrow pre-capitalistic methods of exploitation from the large landowners. Such a state of affairs, nevertheless, does not mean, as certain bourgeois sociologists assume, that in present-day society it is not classes which are functioning but rather fractionated social "strata" or layers, distinguished from each other merely by their hierarchical position, property inequality, and political prestige. As capitalism develops, class differences are not smoothed out but, on the contrary, are deepened and manifested with new force. In this regard, the example of Latin America is particularly indicative.

First of all, it must be noted that in comparison with all the other classes the proletariat has continued to grow rapidly in numbers; moreover, this is mainly due to the proletarianization of the groups of hired labor which were non-proletarian prior to this.

In summing up an analysis of the extremely complex structure of the relations of hiring, let us examine the three basic groups of hired laborers--in industry, the distribution sphere, and in agriculture. During the decade from 1970 to 1980 the proportion of each of these groups changed respectively as follows: from 35 to 35.5 percent, from 38 to 41.5 percent, and from 27 to 23 percent.⁵ Thus, the distribution sphere over a 30-year period absorbed more than 50 percent of the entire growth of hired workers, industry absorbed about 40 percent, and agriculture--approximately 10 percent.

The development of capitalism has led to the appearance of significant and ever-growing masses of hired laborers, employed in the non-productive sectors of the economy. In this connection the tendency arose to automatically relegate hired laborers to the distribution sphere and to the so-called middle strata. In our view, this is incorrect, since it has led to an artificial separation out of the structure of social production, which was created as a result of its historical development in the present period, of those groups of hired workers, including proletarians, without which its full and normal cycle would be impossible today.

Most of these hired workers, as regards their attitude toward the means of production and their place in social production, level of incomes, etc., constitute not some kind of new social stratum (and certainly not a class) but a component group (or groups) of the working class which arose as a result of the new division of labor within present-day capitalist production. An integrated and comprehensive approach to the elucidation of the basic contradiction of bourgeois society compels us to define the overwhelming majority of these categories of laborers as belonging to the working class.

The Marxist-Leninist methodological positions on the priority of objective factors allow us to set up a watershed among the vocational or any other (political, age, sex, nationality) differences within each class or social group, on the one hand, and between these classes or groups themselves, on the other hand. Such an approach enables us to overcome the improbable muddle concerning the nature and composition of the present-day working class.

In many Latin American countries the trade and office proletariat (including the service fields) now comprise a considerable portion of the working class.

Along with this, there has been a growth in the number of persons in the liberal professions; they sell their talents and labor similar to the hired workers. Only a very small group of persons now belongs to the category of fully independent (not subject to direct exploitation by capital) members of the creative intelligentsia. Most of them have essentially been transformed into a unique group of hired labor. In their relationship to capital there is no difference in principle as compared to ordinary workers, while the differences in the level of income, way of life, and methods of their exploitation are not so striking as before.

This means that in all spheres of social production a process of expanding hired labor is taking place, precisely at the expense, moreover, of the urban middle strata. The category of hired laborers forms a social structure which combines the working class (class social structure) with other groups--office employees, engineers, technicians, civil servants, etc. (non-class social structures or strata-type structures). Possessing a common quality (the sale of their own manpower), all these hired-labor groups have their own profiles, occupy different places within the production system, take part in political life in their own ways, and have different psychological traits. In short, what we have here is an extremely complex network of interwoven, multi-faceted social structures.

Proceeding from these methodological positions, according to our calculations, the proportion of the working class proper among hired laborers has now reached more than 80 percent. Its internal structure has also undergone changes: workers employed in industry in 1980 comprised about 43 percent of the entire working class (as compared to 38 percent in 1970), office and trade employees--almost 37 percent (as against 32 percent in 1970), and agricultural workers--20 percent (instead of 30.4 percent in 1970).⁹

Naturally, these computations need to be made more precise, but on the whole they reflect the actual state of affairs. Attention is drawn to the unevenness of the distribution of the army of hired labor and the differing rates of its growth throughout the Latin American countries; this reflects objectively the operation of the law of the uneven development of capitalism. Against the background of the average indicator of the proportion of hired workers on the continent (55.5 percent) the following countries are outstanding: Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, and Costa Rica (which had reached 70 percent already by 1970), Brazil, Venezuela, Colombia, Mexico, Nicaragua (more than 60 percent in the mid-1970's); the milestone of 50 percent was reached by Guatemala, Panama, Peru, El Salvador, and Ecuador.

Quantitative characteristics, of course, still do not show the true role of the working class in social life but merely reveal its place within the social structure.

qualitative indicators are determined primarily by the level of the working class's development, by its capacity, thanks to its own organization and political consciousness, of heading up the struggle for fundamental vital interests for the goals of national progress, to attract to its side the broad strata of working people and the exploited population.

Important among the qualitative indicators in particular is the level of the working class's organization, which determines its social power. The proletariat's capacity to achieve an improvement in living and working conditions influences the rate and direction of capitalist development; it compels the bourgeoisie to seek out new ways to increase the profitability of production--not by means of cheap manpower but by introducing up-to-date forms of production technology and organization. Indirectly the economic struggle of the proletariat leads to an eradication of the pre-capitalist and early capitalist forms of production relations, and, thus, under the conditions of the incomplete tasks of democratic revolution and national liberation it represents one of the manifestations of the working class's role in the struggle for social progress.

Today the Latin American proletariat is characterized by yet another important qualitatively determining trait: from socioeconomic requirements at the level of "worker--entrepreneur" and even "worker--state" the working class of the most developed Latin American countries is making the transition to the level of "exploited--capitalist society." This means that from the struggle to raise wages within the framework of an enterprise, production sector, and even a national economy, the proletariat is making the transition to the struggle to improve the status of all working people. The Latin American proletariat today often comes out with extensive programs of socioeconomic changes for the entire society.

This is especially characteristic of periods of an upsurge of the labor and democratic movement or a revolution. This was the case, for example, in Chile during the years 1970--1973, in Argentina in 1973--1975, Peru in 1968--1976, Bolivia in 1952, 1971, and 1979, Uruguay in 1972--1973, and in other countries; this is yet another specific manifestation of the active role being played by the proletariat in political life.

Moreover, it is important to take into consideration the general level of the proletariat's political maturity, which is manifested in its capacity to rally around itself the basic mass of hired workers; to achieve the support and confidence of the intermediate strata of the population--students, intellectuals, persons in the liberal professions, people in military service, housewives; to find forms of unified actions with the urban petite bourgeoisie, which are numerous in the Latin American countries, as well as the peasants, artisans, and marginal strata of the population.

The conditions for realizing the progressive role of the proletariat also depend on the capacity of its political vanguard to work out and propose to the national forces a viable program for transforming the society which would correctly reflect the socioeconomic and political needs and requirements of historical development, not alienate itself from the masses, not fall into avant-gardeism, on the one hand, and not take up opportunistic and bourgeois-reformist positions, not lag behind the masses, on the other hand.

The revolutionary proletariat of Latin America and its communist parties in recent years have shown a high capacity for such a struggle, operating under the most diverse conditions: bourgeois democracy, terrorist, including fascist, dictatorships, an upsurge of democratic and anti-imperialist movements, and revolutions--those which have been victorious and those which have suffered a temporary defeat. In this struggle the working class, in alliance with other democratic and anti-imperialist forces, has been able to achieve a number of major successes.

Despite the fact that in the mid-1970's the reactionary-imperialist circles unleashed a general counter-offensive against the democratic gains made by the working people, the working class continued its intense struggle in the defense of these gains. And although with regard to a whole range of questions the revolutionary-democratic movement in a number of countries was forced to yield temporarily or go on the defense, the proletariat on the whole maintained its positions and already at the end of the 1970's it had again stepped up the pressure on the ruling classes.

In 1978--1980 under pressure from the trade unions the military government of Argentina made partial concessions to satisfy the demands of the working people. During the last three years (1978--1980) the government of Colombia has been compelled on three occasions to raise the minimum wage of working people and to eliminate, upon their demand, the increased fees for the use of water and electricity in Bogotá, as well as those for travel on public transportation, and to extend the rights of the trade unions.¹⁰

An intensification of the strike movement was characteristic of the situation in Brazil during the years 1978--1980.

Along with the growth of strikes there were increased trends toward consolidating the trade-union movement, to form independent, large central trade unions, even to the point of creating a nationwide unified central trade union. The strike movement in Brazil in the late 1970's became more and more political in nature. Being advanced more and more often to the fore were demands for the recognition of the right to strike, trade-union liberties, expansion of democratic rights, and the promulgation of a general political amnesty. It is undoubtedly true that the struggle of the Brazilian proletariat has been a basic factor in the partial "liberalization" of the military regime. Herein, in our opinion, was a manifestation of the working class's leading role in the struggle to restore democracy and ensure social progress.

An extraordinarily difficult situation in the labor and trade-union movement took shape in Chile after the coup d'état of 11 September 1973 and the establishment of a terrorist fascist government in that country. Attempts by the working people to defend and protect their rights have been put down by the force of arms and with the aid of cruel police repressions. During the course of all the years of the Pinochet regime, and especially during the last few years (1978--1980), the working class of the country has utilized more and more extensively and persistently the proletariat's tried and true weapon--the strike, and this is bringing about the necessary results: the government has been compelled to satisfy a number of the proletariat's demands with regard to increasing wages.

but the highest upsurge and the greatest expression of the leading role played by the Latin American proletariat in the struggle against imperialism, for democracy, social progress and peace has undoubtedly been attained during periods when there has been an upsurge in the democratic struggle of that continent's peoples, under conditions of an upswing in the creative activity of the masses. During the postwar years the history of the Latin American countries has known examples of historical, universal importance; these include the Cuban Revolution, the Bolivian, Guatemalan, Chilean Revolutions, and, finally, the revolution in Nicaragua. In all these revolutions the working class of Latin America played an outstanding role and exhibited miracles of creative initiative and mass heroism. Not always did its actions lead to victory at the given moment and in the given situation, but they always provided the peoples of the continent and the whole world with invaluable specific historical lessons of class struggle.

The Cuban working class under the leadership of its own party not only defended the gains of the revolution but also led the way in building a new society, having ensured the successful development of the first socialist country in the Western Hemisphere.¹⁵

Researchers are still confronted with the task of thoroughly analysing the historical significance of the revolution in Nicaragua and, in particular, imparting meaning to the role of the Nicaraguan working class in the struggle against the Somoza dictatorship and in the victory of the revolution. Today the Nicaraguan proletariat is courageously and consistently defending the revolutionary gains made by the people, and it is making a decisive contribution to restoring the economy, which was ruined by the civil war, as well as marching in the vanguard of the revolutionary changes which are being brought about in the country.¹⁶ The leadership of the working class in the national democratic and anti-imperialist revolution which is in full swing in this country is a guarantee of its successful development and deepening.

Important historical lessons have been provided by the experience of the Chilean Revolution, where the democratic and anti-imperialist forces under the leadership of the working class carried out profound socioeconomic and democratic changes.

The reality of the Latin American countries testifies to the fact that in the struggle for revolution the popular masses utilize and combine the most diverse forms - methods--armed and unarmed. This was vividly manifested during the revolution in Nicaragua, and today it is being confirmed more and more in the course of the developing struggle of the revolutionary masses of El Salvador, Guatemala, and other countries. A clear understanding by the proletariat of its strategic goals, the know-how to create broad popular and political alliances, to achieve unity of action among all progressive forces, and a mastery of all methods and forms of struggle comprise the basic factors of a revolution's success.

The growth in the role of the working class in the social life of the Latin American countries has compelled the ruling classes of that continent to come to terms with this objective fact, to take measures in order to weaken the influence of the most consistent revolutionary groups of the proletariat, to work out plans for a "labor policy," directed at splitting up the trade unions, lessening the

influence within them of the continent's communist parties, and assisting right-wing opportunists and social-reformist forces.

The Latin American bourgeoisie adheres basically to three trends in its policy with regard to the labor and trade-union movement; these are tied in with the more general concepts and models of development and modernization of capitalism. One of these trends bears the undoubted marks of the corporate approach and is founded on a "vertical" system of organizing trade unions as subordinate to an authoritarian state.¹⁷ Such a system was created in Brazil during the years 1965--1977, in Bolivia during the years 1971--1978, and in Chile during 1973--1975. Even today it is declaimed against by quite influential bourgeois circles in a number of this continent's country's. On a political level these circles advocate the establishment of a dictatorial regime capable of restraining the activity of the masses until such time as the influence of the "traditional political parties" would be abolished.

Within an "integrated society" they consider that there can be no place for the class struggle and class relations, since corporate interests must be combined harmoniously with the interests of the nation and national development.

From a class-historical point of view, such a concept, based on the idea of attaining class harmony between labor and capital, reflects the interests (or the utopian ideas) of native bourgeois circles of moderately well-developed capitalist countries which have encountered the genuine threat of a popular democratic revolution with its prospective transformation into a socialist revolution and who are convinced in practice of the capacity of the proletariat to lead it and to put an end to bourgeois social relations. It is not by chance that such theories have become most widespread in those countries where revolutions have suffered defeat or where counter-revolutions have succeeded in seizing the initiative from the working class at the last moment (Brazil after 1964, Bolivia at the beginning of the 1970's, Chile after 1973, and others).

Another trend is marked by the fact that its advocates strive to utilize the experience of the developed capitalist countries which have already carried out a modernization of the capitalist economy. These forces prefer to give an outlet for the energies of the broad circles of the bourgeoisie and the masses which are ideologically and politically subordinate to them within the sphere of a limited bourgeois democracy. They consider that this would allow them to work out an adjusted and compromise plan for a social structure within which harsh discrimination (political) would be directed only against capitalism's principal and consistent foe--the revolutionary working class. This does not exclude the possibility that working people would gradually receive certain social and political rights, but only under conditions whereby mechanisms would be set up, guaranteeing that the proletariat would be maintained in a position of political weakness.¹⁹ With regard to trade unions, a policy of dividing them up along political lines is being pursued, along with their diffusion and atomization.

Historically speaking, this plan is also doomed to failure, but on the level of politics and the marketplace it cannot be denied that its implementation could alter, to a considerable extent, the disposition of the class forces and have a notable influence on the prospects for development of the democratic and anti-imperialist movement.

The "disputes" which are being waged among the various reactionary trends are still aimed at one and the same goal--to satisfy in the best possible way the requirements of the ruling classes and imperialist circles and not to allow the development of the revolutionary and democratic movement.

The effectiveness of the influence of bourgeois policy on the labor and trade-union movement depends primarily on the state of affairs in this movement itself, on how strong and influential is the proletariat within it, on how highly developed is its class consciousness, on how mobilized it is socially and politically, on how prepared it is for organized demonstrations at the call of its own leadership, and on what political forces and parties are leading it.

A large influence in the Latin American labor and trade-union movement is exercised by the national-reformist parties, which constitute a third trend.

National reformism in Latin America, which arose as a reformist alternative to the revolutionary-democratic and anti-imperialist movement with a socialist perspective, during the course of the development of the political situation during the period from the 1960's to the 1980's has been subjected to powerful influence from the centrist forces which have engendered significant changes in the structure of Latin American capitalism. A reactionary-conservative wing has taken shape within it, striving for an alliance with the pro-imperialist forces and prepared together with them to carry through to conclusion the modernization of capitalism which has been begun in the interests of the transnational corporations.

Another faction--the conservative centrists--to this day have retained many of the traditional postulates of national reformism. It advocates a strong state sector, regulation of the economy, protection of native industry, a controlled attraction of foreign capital, moderate reforms in agriculture, a representative bourgeois democracy, and it is attempting to split away from the proletariat its petit-bourgeois allies.

The third trend comprises advocates of changes, relying on that part of the social base of national reformism which consists of workers and office employees. They proclaim as their goal the creation of a society of "national socialism" or "democratic socialism"; moreover, they often speak from a patriotic and anti-imperialist point of view. At the international level this trend is oriented more and more toward European social democrats.

The struggle between these tendencies within the labor movement is intensive in its nature. Moreover, its vector is indicative of the strengthening of the social-democratic trend, which is one of the basic reasons for the "social-democratization" of the national-reformist parties.²²

The communist parties of this continent, in struggling for a unity of the working class as the basis for a broad alliance of democratic and anti-imperialist forces, approaches in a differentiated manner the various trends existing in the present-day Latin American labor and trade-union movement. In this struggle the communists have achieved a number of successes (for example, the Argentine Communists in their efforts at attaining a unity of action with the Peronist workers; the Chilean Communists in their struggle for the unity of an organized working class within the framework of the United Center of Workers; the Venezuelan, Uruguayan Communists, and others).

During the period of the temporary decline in the labor and democratic movement which characterized the mid-1970's the communists began to be accused of the so-called "obrerismo", i. e., of over-estimating the working class's role, and of "imposing" the hegemony of the proletariat within the democratic movement. "Criticism" was uttered to the effect that supposedly the Leninist concept of the proletariat's leading role in the democratic revolution has not stood up to practical experience during the course of the revolutionary struggle in Latin America; hence, it was necessary to work out a new theory, "corresponding" to the present-day level of the development of social relations.²³ Thus, there arose the doctrine of "equal partnership," in accordance with which the proletariat ought not to struggle for hegemony within the revolutionary movement but should rather act as a partner with equal rights along with the other social participants in the struggle, primarily with the middle strata (or "middle classes").

From a theoretical point of view, however, the theory of "equal partnership" does not stand up to criticism, primarily because the proletariat cannot help but struggle for its own hegemony within the democratic movement, since no other class or, furthermore, social stratum can carry out for the working class the mission which history has imposed upon it--the elimination of capitalism and the building of socialism.

In our own days the struggle for hegemony is being waged not between the working class and the middle strata of the Latin American countries, as certain theoreticians consider, but between the proletariat and the monopolistic bourgeoisie; these two groups propose alternative paths of development--socialism or capitalism at its highest, monopolistic stage. The petite bourgeoisie, peasants, and middle strata historically constitute a sociopolitical "center," for which a fierce struggle is waged among the leading classes. This has become particularly evident during periods of revolutionary outbreaks in the continent's countries (for example, during the Cuban and Chilean Revolutions), when there was no more room for "centrism," when a precise demarcation occurred between those for and against the revolution. Under such conditions the choice of the direction to be taken by the society's development depends precisely on what class succeeds in attracting the majority to its side.

Events in the Latin American countries bear witness to the fact that the working class in this region of the world is waging a struggle and carrying out its historical role as the creator of a new society under diverse conditions: the building of socialism in Cuba; the struggle against imperialism and capitalism in the continent's most developed capitalist countries; and the struggle to accomplish national liberation in the countries which are still in colonial and semi-colonial dependence. And everywhere, by the very process of history, the conditions themselves of life in these countries have advanced the proletariat to the head of the movement for social and national liberation.

In Latin America all three currents of the world revolutionary process are represented--socialism, the labor movement, and the national-liberation movement. Their concrete development has engendered phenomena of general historical significance, phenomena which clearly reflect the essence of the present-day period.

FOOTNOTES

5. The tendency toward a certain reduction in the proportion of hired labor in agriculture is characteristic not only of the capitalist countries of Latin America but also for a number of European countries, for example, Spain. See: Z. Fernandez de Castro, A. Goitre, "Clases sociales en España en el umbral de los años 70," Mexico City, 1977, pp 64-65.
9. "Yearbook of Labour Statistics. 1959--1979"; national censuses for the years 1950--1970.
10. VOZ PROLETARIA, Bogotá, 3 Jan 1980.
15. C. R. Rodriguez, "Social Classes and the Revolution in Cuba," DESARROLLO INDOAMERICANO, Barranquilla, 1979, No 49, pp 53-55.
16. MONTHLY REVIEW, New York, 1980, Vol 31, No 9, p 31.
17. The American sociologist G. [?] Petras designates regimes which carry out such a policy in the Latin American countries as "neo-fascist," emphasizing their difference in this respect from the "classical fascist" regimes. JOURNAL OF CONTEMPORARY [sic]. London--Stockholm, 1980, Vol 10, No 1-2 pp 119-129.
19. CHILE--AMERICA, Rome, 1980, No. 60--61, pp 23-30.
22. For a more detailed treatment see LATINSKAYA AMERIKA, 1976, No 4; 1979, No 5.
23. T. Petkoff, "Proceso a la izquierda," Barcelona, 1976, pp 86, 98.

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INTERNATIONAL

U.S.-PRC INTRIGUES IN CARIBBEAN REGION ATTACKED

Moscow LATINSKAYA AMERIKA in Russian No 3, Mar 81 (signed to press 2 Feb 81)
pp 36-47

[Article by A. V. Ol'gin: "The Caribbean Basin: The Imperialist Threat and Beijing's Manoeuvres"]

[Excerpts] Political events of the last few years in the countries of the Caribbean Basin have clearly demonstrated the general and universal nature of the liberation processes in the contemporary world. Peoples of the most remote regions have been drawn into the anti-colonialist, anti-imperialist struggle, including small, island states which were just recently still considered to be the "preserve" of imperialism. The Consultative Meeting of the Representatives of Communist, Labor, and Revolutionary-Democratic Parties and Organizations of the Caribbean Basin Countries, which was held in August 1979 in Georgetown, noted the unprecedented upsurge of political self-awareness and the struggle by the peoples of this part of the world.

Changes in the Caribbean Basin are indivisible from the general situation in the world, characterized by a growing shift in the correlation of forces in favor of peace and socialism. The building of a socialist society in Cuba, the constructive policy of this Island of Freedom in the sub-region, which has bound up the forces of imperialism, have created favorable conditions for activating progressive, nationalistic, and liberation movements in the Caribbean region, as well as the growth of the international authority of this region's countries as a result of the promulgation by the majority of Caribbean states of an independent foreign-policy course, along with their widespread participation in the struggle of the developing countries to establish a new international economic system and in the non-alignment movement. Cuba has provided an example of the most radical solution of the root socioeconomic problems; it is a guide and a source of internationalist support and aid to the peoples of this sub-region. An important positive role has also been played by the victory of the Nicaraguan people under the leadership of the Sandinista Front for National Liberation over the Somoza dictatorship.

The new trends in the Caribbean Basin go counter to the plans of imperialism and the Beijing leadership, which is en bloc with it. Occupying a key strategic position and being located in direct proximity with the United States, the Caribbean sub-region for decades has been regarded by it as a "traditional" sphere of economic and military-political interests, as its southern flank and "quarantine" zone for surrounding Cuba.¹

The step-up of the global-expansionist ambitions in Washington's present-day policy was notably reflected, in particular, in the growth of interest in the Caribbean countries, in the attempt to regard them as a zone of "special concern" and to relegate their problems to the category of U.S. "internal affairs." Attempting to retard the liberation processes in Latin America and to fence off the Caribbean countries from the influence of world socialism, the White House during the final years of the Carter presidency embarked upon a path of inciting tension and escalating hostile actions against Cuba, frightening and blackmailing other progressive regimes.

The interest of the Chinese leadership in the Caribbean countries grew parallel with the activation of Washington's diplomacy. Beijing nourishes the hope that the aggressive course of the United States will accord it Beijing the possibility of implementing its own hegemonistic, anti-socialist schemes in this part of the world. The Caribbean Basin is considered by China primarily as a sphere of provocative manoeuvring and speculations in heating up the confrontation between Washington and socialist Cuba, as well as between imperialism and those Caribbean countries which have a progressive orientation. The determining factor of the PRC's policy, directed at the struggle against socialism in various regions, is the attempt to undermine Cuba's international position, which represents a serious obstacle to the implementation of the hegemonistic plans of the Maoists not only in the Caribbean Basin and Latin America but also in the non-alignment movement and in the developing countries of the world as well. Beijing has attempted to utilize the increased conflicts between Washington's expansionist aspirations in this region and the liberation, anti-colonial, and anti-imperialist processes for the purpose of inciting the United States to take an adventurist course of intensifying its military opposition to socialism, and this is fraught with the danger of armed conflict.

Since the mid-1970's Beijing's propaganda has focussed steadily on the military aspects of the opposition between the USSR and the United States, connected supposedly with the increased "Soviet military threat" in the Caribbean. Beijing is making every effort to present the Soviet Union and Cuba as virtually the main source of military danger, and the United States as a factor of "stability" and a "check on aggression." In 1978 Chinese propaganda picked up on the American fabrication of the "threat" which was supposed to derive from the MIG-23 fighters stationed in Cuba, while a year later it joined in Washington's hysterical uproar over the presence of Soviet military training personnel on that island.

As the Chinese leadership drew closer to Washington, it attempted more and more openly to provoke a recurrent crisis in American-Cuban relations. For this purpose it attempted above all to block a certain lessening of the tension between Cuba and the United States, which had started to take shape in 1977 and early 1978 and which was expressed in a partial normalization of bilateral relations. Such a course of events was regarded in Beijing as a factor in undermining the foundations of the Maoist strategy of instigating tension between the two countries.

Not limiting itself to propagandistic pronouncements, Beijing has undertaken some clearly instigatory steps. At the beginning of 1979, while on an official visit to the United States, the Deputy Premier of the PRC State Council, Deng Xiaoping, openly called upon Washington to "teach Cuba a lesson." In May of that same year

a similar thesis was repeated by the deputy chairman of the Standing Committee of the All-Chinese Assembly of People's Representatives, Ji Pengfei and Wu Lanfu. The significance of such terminology becomes clear if we bear in mind that it was precisely these words which were used to characterize the aggression against Vietnam.

The "frank revelations" of the Chinese leaders once again demonstrated their adventurous course, dangerous for the cause of peace. Beijing's attempts to push the United States into an aggression against Cuba are inseparable from its global policy of struggling against socialism and undermining detente. At the same time these attempts distinctly show that the struggle against socialism comprises the basis of the forced Maoist rapprochement with the most aggressive U.S. circles and the close coordination of their efforts in various regions of the world.

The alliance which has taken shape between the Chinese leadership and the aggressive circles of imperialism in the Caribbean Basin on an anti-socialist, anti-Soviet, and anti-Cuban basis conceals within itself a direct threat to the independent development of the Caribbean countries, as well as to peace and stability in this region. The attempts to exacerbate the political situation in the Caribbean countries, to set the United States against Cuba, along with the open anti-Soviet and anti-Cuban propaganda pursue the goal of undermining the united, anti-imperialist front which has been formed in this region, along with disarming the Caribbean countries in face of the threat of imperialist interference, as well as from the hegemonist, great-power pretensions of Beijing.

By virtue of a number of circumstances the young states of the Caribbean Basin are considered by the Chinese leadership to be extremely good future prospects for its policy. Their importance is determined not only by the special nature of this sub-region but also by the significant role played by these states in the non-aligned movement and among the developing countries as a whole.⁴ With a concentration, according to Chinese estimates, of "more than 30 countries and regions," the Caribbean Basin constitutes for Beijing a large reserve of potential support for its course in the world arena as a whole in the UN and other international organizations and forums. The activity of Maoist diplomacy in the Caribbean has been directed primarily at drawing these countries into the sphere of its own political influence by means of playing upon the unstable situation which has been created here for a number of reasons, mainly at the fault of the United States, as well as counting upon the support of anti-socialist, anti-Soviet, and anti-Cuban actions on Washington's part.

It is characteristic that the obvious activation of Chinese policy in this region coincided with the escalation of the campaign hostile to socialism which the imperialist circles unleashed in connection with the internationalistic aid of the Soviet Union, Cuba, and other socialist countries to the national liberation movement in Africa.

In July 1978 several Caribbean states--Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, and Guyana--were visited by a highly placed delegation of the PRC, led by Deputy Premier of the State Council, Geng Biao. The countries of this region were also visited by Chinese journalists, representatives of foreign-trade departments, and sports delegations. Particular accent was placed on extensive publicity regarding the

Chinese economic "aid" and particularly the interest-free credits promised by the PRC to a number of Caribbean countries.

The Beijing leadership hopes that the economic backwardness of the Caribbean countries, which is a consequence of the prolonged domination by imperialism in their economies, the constant pressure and threats from their northern neighbor, will make them more amenable to Maoist penetration and attempts to impose upon them political guidelines advantageous to China. Unabashedly speculating on the difficulties of economic development in the Caribbean states, as well as on their legitimate dangers with regard to the possibility of open imperialist interference, Beijing has attempted to put into one boat the principally different approaches of the Soviet Union and the United States to the problems of underdeveloped countries, and to discredit the aid and support being rendered to them by the socialist community. Actually shielding the imperialism of the United States, the Chinese leaders in unison with reactionary bourgeois propaganda are making efforts to depict the Soviet Union and Cuba as the "basic disturbers of the peace."

An obvious coincidence of positions marked the attempt by both Beijing and Washington to discredit the important positive role played by Cuba in the non-aligned movement on the eve of and during the Sixth Conference of Heads of States and Governments of the Non-Aligned Nations in September 1979 in Havana, to complicate its relations with states which are active members of this movement, including Jamaica, Guyana, and others.

The Beijing leadership strives to mask the open, anti-socialist thrust of its own course by means of profuse talk about the need for a "joint struggle against the hegemony of the superpowers, especially social-imperialism." As was emphasized, in particular, in the article entitled "The Duel Between the Two Superpowers in the Western Hemisphere,"⁶ U.S. imperialism has assumed a passive, defensive position with regard to the Soviet Union's "growing expansion." Moreover, Washington's neocolonialist presence here, and especially in the Caribbean, which is supposedly at the epicenter of the attention of "social imperialism," is dictated exclusively by the ideas of defending the zone of its own "traditional influence" from a certain "new master," proclaimed by China as nothing less than "enemy No. 1 of all peoples."

Particular bitterness is caused in Beijing by the expansion of economic cooperation between the Caribbean countries and the socialist community along the lines of ties with CEMA. Such a course, which is regarded by the states of the Caribbean Basin as an important factor facilitating the strengthening of their economic independence and consolidating their political independence, obviously reduces the chances of the Maoists to implement their own hegemonist plans.

The expansion of mutually profitable and equitable economic relations between the Caribbean states and the socialist world is in opposition to the prospects of rapprochement with China and the developed capitalist countries, not excluding the United States, and for further drawing the Caribbean countries into a system of economic, military, and political alliances with imperialism.

In popularizing the Maoist course, aimed at an alliance between the "second" and "third" worlds, Beijing has referred on several occasions, for example, to the

"advantages" of developing ties between CARICOM and the EEC.¹⁰ Thus, the Chinese leadership, by urging the Caribbean countries onto a path of unilateral orientation toward the imperialist states, are, in fact, advocating the retention of a neo-colonialist dependency. Moreover, Beijing's references to "supporting" the demands for establishing a new international economic system, being defended by the developing, including the Caribbean, countries, have masked the attempts to introduce into this movement the ideas of achieving "harmonious" relations among the developing countries and the imperialist powers.

One of the important tasks of Beijing's direct diplomatic practice in the Caribbean countries consists in the attempt to obtain access to the levers of influence on their internal political life. The Chinese leadership has set itself a course of supporting primarily the rightist and extremely right-wing bourgeois-nationalist forces; it attempts to exert an influence on the ruling and the opposition parties as well. Playing upon the backwardness of the Caribbean countries, it lavishly praises and encourages the reactionary racial-political, and religious concepts which are cultivated in these circles not without the aid of imperialism, such concepts as neo-pan-Africanism, "black capitalism," "nationalistic communism," neo-Trotskyism, and Maoism. At the same time the Chinese leadership approaches with open hostility the progressive revolutionary and revolutionary-democratic movements in the sub-region and carries out subversive operations against the Communist and other left-wing parties and groups, as well as against the labor movement's unity.

Any progressive changes in the internal political life of the Caribbean countries is stereotypically linked by Beijing with the "hand of Moscow" or the "hand of Havana." Such a simple-minded device, borrowed from bourgeois propaganda, is called upon to mask the Maoists' profound hostility to the goals of the true liberation of peoples and to the ideas of socialism.

In Central America the sympathies of the Chinese leadership are on the side of the dictatorial regimes. Beijing's approach to Nicaragua serves as the clearest illustration of this. Though it had good relations with the Somoza clan, after the overthrow of his dictatorship China attempted to play a dirty game behind the curtains with the government of national revival. While proclaiming their permanent "solidarity" with the Nicaraguan people during the period of its struggle against the Somoza dictatorship (this was stated, in particular, by the PRC Minister of Foreign Affairs, Huang Hua), after this dictatorship's overthrow, though they gave verbal support to the changes which were taking place in the country, the Maoists incited the pro-Beijing and Trotskyite factions in Nicaragua into armed struggle against the people's regime; they have attempted to provoke a schism between the United Federation of Nicaraguan Workers and the mass organization of working people. On the foreign-policy level Beijing has striven to push the United States onto the path of stepping up its subversive activities against the Nicaraguan Revolution. Appealing to the most reactionary and adventurous circles in Washington, Beijing trumpets the danger of the emergence of a "second Cuba."¹³

The victory of the Nicaraguan people, disrupting China's economic ties with the Somoza dictatorship, compelled Beijing to enter into an enforced rapprochement with the reactionary regime in Guatemala.

Obvious sympathies for the ruling junta are to be seen in Beijing's evaluations of events in El Salvador. Chinese commentaries have noted in a positive tone the junta's "achievements" in the social field and the "broad program of democratically restructuring" the country which it is supposedly carrying out. Among the adherents of bloody tyranny the Beijing propagandists did not hesitate to include Archbishop Oscar Romero, who became a victim of fascist bands encouraged by the junta. In one of the articles in the Chinese press, filled with malicious inventions about the "threat" to El Salvador from the Soviet Union and Cuba, it was noted that the murder of Romero was a deed carried out not by right-wing extremists but by certain "evil forces which hated his patriotic position."¹⁵

Beijing's diplomacy places considerable hopes on people of Chinese extraction who live in the Caribbean states, particularly in Guyana, Surinam, Trinidad and Tobago. These overseas Chinese comprise a relatively small ethnic sub-stratum here. The most well-to-do portion of the overseas Chinese occupy powerful positions in the economic structure of a number of countries in this sub-region, especially in the sphere of wholesale and retail trade.¹⁶ Their political influence (which is what Beijing is attempting to play upon) is testified to by the fact that in certain states, for example, in Guyana and in Trinidad and Tobago, persons of Chinese extraction occupy high posts in the state machinery.

At the present time Beijing, in conducting a nationalistic course with regard to the overseas Chinese and striving to consolidate them into a "unified patriotic front," regardless of their class membership or questions of citizenship, is attempting to utilize this portion of the population as a rather important instrument of its own economic and political influence within the Caribbean countries, and as one of the sources of financing anti-Soviet and anti-Cuban propaganda. As was noted in an OAS report, the Chinese communities under pressure from Beijing could be turned into "fifth column" elements within their own countries.¹⁸

The policy of the Chinese leadership with regard to the Caribbean is in sharp contradiction to its numerous declarations concerning "non-interference" in the internal affairs of other states, and "just, equitable, and respectful" relations with small nations. It demonstrates in practice the genuine great-power, imperial position of the Maoists. Such a course plays into the hands of the forces of imperialism and reaction. Beijing's policy is a substantial supplement to the policeman's role of imperialism in the Caribbean region, and it is being transformed more and more into an inseparable element of the latter's strategy.

The intensification of U.S. expansionist aspirations in this part of this world is impelling that country to draw Beijing into more actively carrying out its own schemes. The events of the last few years have confirmed this trend. Attention is also drawn to the open playing up to Washington on the part of Maoist diplomacy in the Caribbean sub-region. American press organs or the publishing houses controlled by the United States more and more frequently sound out calls to activate such a course, and sometimes they openly advertise Maoism as a means of "solving" the social problems of this region.

Beijing's course of cozying up to the forces of imperialism and reaction constitutes a genuine threat to the Caribbean peoples; it runs counter to their basic national interests and to the present-day political reality. The historical development of this sub-region's countries has already testified with sufficient

clarity that their future, as well as the future of young sovereign states in other parts of the world and that of the nations which are achieving independence, is scarcely linked with the neo-colonialist schemes which imperialism and its Beijing allies are imposing upon them, but with genuine liberation, the growth of anti-colonial and anti-imperialist solidarity, and an increase in their roles in international affairs.

In the world of political reality the Caribbean countries are recognizing more and more clearly the slanderous nature of the fabrications of the Maoist and imperialist propaganda regarding the goals and intentions of the socialist states.

Despite the pressure which is being exerted on the states of the Caribbean Basin, many of them have continued to maintain a course of international cooperation. They have decisively rejected the attempts to impose upon them a confrontation with the socialist world, in which they see a reliable ally.

The line of the Caribbean countries directed at developing multi-faceted relations with the socialist world is manifested most visibly in their ties with Cuba. Despite the frantic efforts of internal reactionaries, the United States, and Beijing, most of the states of this part of the world have continued to strengthen their relations with the first socialist country in the Western Hemisphere, considering it to be an important factor in ensuring their own independent development, as well as peace and stability within the sub-region.

Ever-widening circles of public opinion in the Caribbean countries are recognizing the true role which the policy of the Chinese leadership is playing in Latin America and in the developing world as a whole. Profound indignation was evoked on the continent by the aggression of the Beijing hegemonists against Vietnam.

The liberation struggle of the Caribbean peoples, which enjoys wide support among all the world's progressive forces, will grow stronger, despite the intrigues of imperialism and its Beijing accomplices.

FOOTNOTES

1. "Cuba and the Caribbean. Hearing Before the Subcommittee on Inter-American Affairs of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. House of Representatives. Ninety-First Congress, 2nd Session." Washington, 1970.
4. Along with Cuba and Peru, Guyana, Jamaica, and Grenada are also included in the Coordination Bureau of the non-aligned movement.
10. RENMIN RIBAO, 1 April 1978.
13. BEIJING REVIEW, 1980, No 1, pp 12-13.
15. BEIJING REVIEW, 1980, No 15, p 12.
16. See THE NEW YORK TIMES, 16 May 1975; SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, Hong-Kong, 11 June 1974.

18. OEA. "Comisión Especial de Consulta sobre Seguridad. Contra la acción subversiva del comunismo internacional. Documentos oficiales. La política de China comunista en América Latina." Ser. L/X/II. 32, 1972, p. 46.

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INTERNATIONAL

PRC'S PROVOCATION IN INDIA ATTACKED

Moscow NOVOSTI DAILY REVIEW in English 27 Apr 81 pp 1-2

[Article by Oleg Kitsenko]

[Text] Alarming news is again coming in from India's northeastern areas. Separatist and nationalist organisations have again raised their heads in Assam, Manipur, Nagaland and other states and union territories. They perpetuate acts of subversion at industrial plants, at oilfields in Assam and on transport, disrupting the smooth flow of economic activity, and also burn down villages and murder those who refuse to cooperate with them.

Speaking at a rally in the city of Silchar, Assam, Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi pointed out that the attempts of the subversive forces to destabilize the situation in the northeast of the country prevented the implementation of the government's programmes aimed at overcoming the economic backwardness of the republic's outlying regions. It is particularly dangerous, the Prime Minister warned, that the invigoration of the extremists' activities poses a threat to India's national unity and territorial integrity.

The subversive elements activities have been going on in those areas, now picking up now subsiding, for over twenty years now. The country's central government, showing patience and restraint, has repeatedly conducted talks with the rebels' leaders in an attempt to find peaceful solutions to the existing problems, and corresponding agreements have been concluded. Considerable financial and material resources are always set aside for the development of those areas. All comparatively large ethnic groups in the northeastern area have been granted statehood within the framework of single India.

Normalcy would undoubtedly have returned to those parts long ago if the subversive elements were not backed by external forces. Hard facts show that from the outset the separatist movement in the northeast of India was inspired by China. Rebels are brainwashed, trained in terrorist techniques, armed in camps on Chinese territory and then infiltrated into India.

Isn't it evidence of the fact that Peking doesn't have the slightest intention to renounce its long-time plans for destabilizing the situation in the region in order to tear from India its northeastern territories? As before, the

pro-Peking groupings set themselves the task of creating there "independent states" or "federations" of such states, and Peking, as before, considers these regions to be "temporarily lost territories."

The Indian political and public circles link Peking's subversive activities, and with good reason, to its other hostile actions, such as the deployment of troops and nuclear missiles along the Indian border, its refusal to return the Indian lands occupied by it, the construction of a network of military strategic roads on these lands, and the arming, together with the United States, of Pakistan and the encouragement of it to confront India. Peking is doing all this in an attempt to pressure India and to weaken it. A strong India is not to Peking's liking because it has an important role to play in the non-aligned movement and on the international scene as a whole and is a serious obstacle to China's hegemonistic schemes in Asia.

CSO: 1812/52

INTERNATIONAL

USSR SUPPORTS AFRICA IN OVERCOMING NEOCOLONIALISM

Moscow NOVOSTI DAILY REVIEW in English 8 May 81 pp 1-4

[Article by Sergei Pomerantsev, analyst, International Department, SELSKAYA ZHIZN]

[Text] Of the 29 countries that, as the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) reports, suffer from an abnormal shortage of food, 23 are in Africa. This is the result of the colonial rule of imperialism and its neo-colonial policy on the continent. In the past decade, Africa's population, according to America's TIME magazine, grew almost three times faster than its food production, the increase of which amounted to approximately one per cent a year. In the opinion of Edem Kodjo, OAU secretary-general, by the beginning of the 21st century when the population of Africa will double, the gap between the African countries' need for food and their actual supplies will remain great.

Naturally, the governments of many African countries are seeking solutions to this situation and outlined a programme of self-reliance in food supplies for the future. Different African countries are carrying out agrarian reforms aimed at a fairer distribution of land, and at replacing the outdated forms of traditional relations in the countryside with progressive ones.

Life, however, has shown that today agricultural development depends not only on the solution of agro-peasant questions inside the individual country, but, to a greater extent, on the restructuring of the whole complex of production relations both on a national and international scale. The newly-born states justly put forward the demand to revise the existing unequal economic relations with the capitalist world and to put an end to their colonial oppression.

During many years of domination in Africa, imperialists rapaciously plundered the continent's wealth, and, today too, they are doing everything in their power to preserve the dependent position of their former colonies. The capitalist world has made its credit and financial policy a tool of influence on the African countries and other developing states. This policy forces African producers to concentrate, as they did in colonial times, on the expansion of crops which could be exported as raw materials so badly needed by the West. It reduces the possibilities of meeting domestic food requirements,

and, as a result, the newly-born states become dependent on the ups and downs of the capitalist market, which is exactly what Western businesses want. They have turned food trade into a source of profit and into an instrument of political pressure.

The developing countries have to buy foods from the Western corporations at prices that are beyond the means of many of them. All this as well as enslaving loans and credits and the gap in prices for exported produce of local farming and imported industrial items increase the debts of African countries. According to the OAU Secretary-General, their payments deficit in 1980 amounted to 44,000 million dollars.

Given that the imperialist corporations control trade not only in foods but also in fertilizers, seeds and agricultural machinery, one can clearly see the harmful impact of neo-colonialism on African agriculture. It is this vicious circle of relations with the capitalist world that the liberated states are trying to break out of when they demand the establishment of a new international economic order.

Economic backwardness, resulting from the imperialist plunder of the continent, tremendously hinders the development of Africa's agriculture. Thus, the use of new high-yielding crop varieties, mineral fertilizers and pesticides is still at a very low level.

But there are even greater obstacles on the road of transforming the African countryside that are created by imperialist policy. Its aim is to conserve archaic forms of production and social relations. In the countries of Tropical Africa, for example, communal or patriarchal relations still hold a prominent place.

In a number of African countries that have chosen a capitalist way of development, agrarian reforms have consolidated the positions of the small-commodity and private-capitalist structures. However, even the most effective forms of restructuring the economic development of African villages (for example, in Kenya and the Ivory Coast) have failed to bring about any positive social changes.

In order to solve one of the most acute social problems--increasing employment in the African countryside--it is necessary to provide rural poor people with land and the means of production expropriated from colonialists and, on this basis, build cooperatives. The socialist-oriented countries have taken this road, and a good example is the People's Republic of Angola that already has about 450 large production cooperatives. The positions of the state sector with several dozen farms are expanding. The state also controls hundreds of coffee plantations. In the socialist-oriented countries effective agrarian reforms substantially limit the positions of foreign monopolies and local big capital. This factor facilitates deep-going social and economic transformations in the countryside. But, as life has shown, it is this group of countries that experience most difficulties because of discriminatory policies of Western states. Their so-called "aid" is increasingly tied to political terms.

The relations of African countries with the Soviet Union and other socialist states radically differ from the "aid" of imperialist powers. The socialist states give African countries effective assistance that is vitally important for the progress of their agriculture. This assistance includes the development of new lands, land improvement measures, mechanization of production, the establishment of cooperatives and state farms, and also enterprises in the processing industry, and training of workers.

African countries' cooperation with the world of socialism goes far beyond the limits of bilateral contacts. The Soviet Union vigorously supports the demand of newly-born states to establish a new international economic order.

The attainment by African countries of political independence is one of the most significant factors of world development in the past two decades. Today Africa continues its struggle aimed at overcoming backwardness, gaining economic independence and at completely liberating the continent from the fetters of neo-colonialism.

CSO: 1812/52

REGIONAL

JOURNAL 'MOLLA NASREDDIN,' ITS FOUNDER HONORED IN JUBILEE

Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian 12 May 81 p 4

[Article by M. Mekhtiyeva, staff scientist of the Museum of Azerbaijani Literature imeni Nizami: "With Reflections About the Fate of the People"]

[Text] In the exposition of the Museum of Azerbaijani Literature imeni Nizami there is a section that is always very interesting to visitors. This is the corner devoted to Dzhafar Mamedkulizade, the outstanding realist writer and revolutionary democrat, and to the militant satirical journal he published MOLLA NASREDDIN. The lovingly and carefully selected exhibits make it possible to vividly and clearly imagine episodes in the writer's life and creativity and his work on the journal MOLLA NASREDDIN.

Works of art that reveal by artistic means the creative world of Dzhafar Mamedkulizade and the atmosphere in which he had occasion to work create a particular ambience in the exhibit. There is an interesting painted portrait of the writer, who is represented holding the first issue of his journal. This is the work of the artist Nadzhafgulu. The figure of the writer, who took the misfortunes of the people so close to his heart and who fought energetically against evil and violence, has also been recreated in other works of artists and sculptors.

Dzhafar Mamedkulizade, author of the notable satirical stories and novellas "The Game With the Raisin," "Events in the Settlement Danabash," "The Mailbox," and "Zeynal's Mouth," revealed the full power of his splendid talent in his satirical journal.

The journal, whose first issue came out in April 1906, was named after Molla Nasreddin, the well-known Oriental sage and satirist, who, pretending to be a fool, made outrageous fun of the running of the government by the well-off, the rich, the clergy and the civil servants, and supported the poor and unprotected "little people." "And after all was it not natural," the writer recalled afterward, "for the journal MOLLA NASREDDIN to appear in order to write the history of that time and to portray the customs and ways of those strange people? MOLLA NASREDDIN was created by nature itself, was a child of the times!"

Visitors to the museum examine with unvarying interest the first issue of the journal, which is on display. There is an expressive drawing here which represents the

peoples of the countries of the Moslem East waking up after a long sleep, those people whom Molla Nasreddin addressed when he said: "I have come to you with reflections concerning you, concerning my Moslem brother!"

As researchers have rightly noted, the journal MOLLA NASREDDIN was a completely new phenomenon in the history of periodicals not only in Azerbaijan, but indeed throughout the Near and Middle East, and a notable occurrence in world publishing. In no country of the East has there been such a journal, which was distinguished by the uniqueness and severity of its form and the topicality of its content.

A large group of authors who appeared in it regularly very soon rallied around the journal: poets and prose writers who have come to be called the MOLLA NASREDDIN-ites. There are portraits of them in the exhibit: M. A. Sabir, A. Gyangusar, A. Akhverdov, A. Nazmi, O. Faik and M. S. Ordubady. The faces of the men who stood shoulder to shoulder with the editor and who shared with him the full weight of the struggle, and their difficult work was a struggle in the full sense of the word, are bold and open. In confirmation of that a stand presents the words of Dzhafar Mamedkulizade, who said that MOLLA NASREDDIN is the result of the work of many people, to whom it became their oldest comrade.

The materials presented in the section show how broad a range of topics the journal treated, how passionately it entered the most varied spheres of life, how accurately and precisely it chose its means in this effort. And every feature article, pamphleteering article, story, letter to the editor, or poem was accurately aimed at its target, just like a sniper's bullet.

Given the almost universal illiteracy of Azerbaijan at that time, the satirical illustrations and caricatures were especially important; they were done by the artists Azim Azimzade, Rotter, Shmerling and others. The vivid and colorful drawings are usually accompanied by short captions of two or three lines. Now represented in the exhibit, they still arouse the lively interest of visitors.

The monarchic system, the feudal capitalistic oppression, inertia and religious prejudice, and the nationality and colonial policy of imperialism--all these were targets of the journal's attacks. MOLLA NASREDDIN popularized the ideas of political freedom and social equality, the ideas of enlightenment and science, and the ideas of friendship and peace among nations. In a word, there was not a single political event or social phenomenon of any importance to which it did not respond.

It bore a particular imprint because the journal was intended for the broad strata of workers and was published in a police state. Lacking the opportunity to speak openly, it was forced to use Aesopian language: hints, jokes, allegories, its own jargon, riddles, anecdotes and caricatures. This entire MOLLA NASREDDINist arsenal was easily comprehensible to a broad range of readers and won over numerous admirers in many countries.

Nor did the journal cease to have importance even after establishment of Soviet power in Azerbaijan. It became a fierce weapon in the struggle against the internal and external enemies of the Soviet people, portraying in its pages the labor exploits of heroes and the achievements of the young republic.

All of this has given the journal MOLLA NASREDDIN tremendous popularity. It is widespread in the Caucasus, in the Volga Region, in Siberia, in Central Asia, as well as in the countries of the Near and Middle East. And everywhere the name of the journal has been inseparable from the name of its founder and publisher Dzh. Mamedkulizade, whom they have even referred to as Molla Nasreddin.

7045

CSO: 1800

REGIONAL

RSFSR SUPREME SOVIET COMMISSION HITS ENERGY WASTE

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 28 Apr 81 p 2

[Article by G. Orlovskiy: "Economical Expenditure"]

[Text] Regular meetings of the standing commissions of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet are taking place in Moscow. Even a mere list of the questions being taken up (reports on performance of a number of standing commissions have already been published in our newspaper) convinces one that the principal tasks which the deputies' attention is centered on is the search for practical ways of successful implementation of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress. Thus yesterday the Commission for Housing Management and Municipal and Consumer Services turned to one of the most acute problems: increasing the efficiency of use of fuel and power resources in housing management and municipal services. Activity in this most important area by local soviets in Permskaya Oblast was analyzed as an example.

Local soviets in Permskaya Oblast have been making a definite effort toward optimum consumption of energy resources and their conservation. This is being achieved by improving manufacturing processes, by replacing outdated units by more efficient ones, by improving the operating pattern of electric transportation, and by monitoring more strictly standard allowances for fuel and energy consumption. Executive committees of soviets and standing commissions are now operating in close contact with people's control.

Having noted the constructive aspects, the deputies of the Supreme Soviet concentrated their attention on the shortcomings and unresolved problems. At present the level of performance of local soviets in Permskaya Oblast with respect to the use and conservation of fuel and power resources is not meeting the requirements that have been set. There are still quite a few enterprises in housing management and municipal services which are consuming beyond the established limits. In the first quarter of this year 500,000 kwh of power were unwisely consumed at 28 municipal service enterprises. The supplemental assignment for conservation of electric power in the oblast's municipal services was underfulfilled by 40 percent!

The oblispolkom was rightly reproached for having failed to achieve performance of its own decisions. A report of the ispolkom of the Solikamsk City Soviet was heard back in 1979. It pointed out cases of mismanagement and wastefulness in the use of energy resources. But the decision did not go beyond words on paper: in 1980 a

large overconsumption of power occurred again in Solikamsk, and the same thing is evident even now.

Sizable flows of power are literally leaking because of lack of initiative on the part of municipal service departments, in the water supply department particularly. For example, large-output pumping stations were built to take water from the Chusovaya, but the routes of the water supply line were not prepared. So they are pumping water out of the river and ... pouring it back in again.

As in the past the ispolkoms of local soviets seem to "freeze" in the face of cases of mismanagement of the housing stock belonging to ministries and departments. There is practically no monitoring of the operation of 1,500 small boiler installations serving that stock.

Local soviets and their housing and municipal service agencies have not established order in the consumption of energy in their housing management either: lights are burning day and night in entranceways, on stair landings, and sometimes they forget to turn off the street lamps until noontime....

It is natural for the deputies, once they sternly condemned mismanagement, to try to discover the causes and to determine the weakest links in the performance of ispolkoms. Particular attention was paid to typical oversights in performance which are characteristics of local governmental agencies in other regions as well.

As a matter of fact (and the example of Permskaya Oblast has confirmed this): what is the use of including in plans organizational and technical measures to reduce energy consumption at municipal service enterprises, if those plans are compiled without taking engineering designs into account? Can such plans orient collectives toward attainment of realistic results in conservation? Criticism should rightly be addressed to the RSFSR Minzhilkomunkhoz [Ministry of Housing and Municipal Services]: often the specific standard allowances for consumption of energy in this sector are hiked up unjustifiably. This creates room for squandering.

The standing commission drafted the necessary recommendations to increase the efficiency of use of energy resources in the municipal service industry. They pertain not only to the soviets of Permskaya Oblast, but also to Minzhilkomunkhoz as a whole and to planning agencies. It will also be useful to other ispolkoms of local soviets. It is very important to say something as well about that ethical aspect of the problem to which the deputies turned particular attention.

Deputy A. P. Blokhin, chairman of the commission, said: efficient utilization of resources and thrift are both economic and ethical categories. It is a question of a qualitatively new level in managerial activity, in the constant orientation of personnel toward efficient economic management. Deputies and local soviets must go to each enterprise, each shop and every manager. They should ask for a specific assignment.

Still another important note that was heard in the meeting of the standing commission: inhabitants of rural areas and cities should see the practical evidence of the great concern of the soviets for a careful and stewardly attitude toward energy resources. Then their concern about conservation will receive a new impetus as well.

REGIONAL

'PRAVDA' SUMMARIZES SHEVARDNADZE REPORT ON GEORGIAN JUBILEE

LDO41019 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 May 81 p 3

[TASS report: "In the Harmonious Family of Soviet Peoples: The 60th Anniversary of the Victory of Soviet Power in Georgia and the Formation of the Georgian Communist Party"]

[Text] The republican press in Georgia has published the report "The 60th Anniversary of the Victory of Soviet Power in Georgia and the Formation of the Georgian Communist Party" by E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee. The report says:

The birthday of Soviet Georgia and its communist party has become a nationwide holiday for Soviet people: Our celebrations are celebrations for all the great and mighty USSR and the whole harmonious and united family of Soviet peoples, of which we are an integral part.

Centuries will pass, but the memory of that historic day, 25 February 1921, when the red banner of Soviet power was raised over Georgia, will be handed down carefully from generation to generation. Selfless devotion to the Leninist banner, the party's Leninist nationalities policy and the Soviet people's friendship and fraternity led to true prosperity in Georgia. The unfading light of October cut through the age-old darkness, led our people onto the broad path of social progress and firmly and forever united their historical destiny with the destiny of the great Russian people and with the destiny of the entire community of socialist nations of the Soviet Union--the active creator of the new, socialist civilization.

Soviet Georgia greeted its present jubilee during the days of work of the 26th CPSU Congress.

The 26th CPSU Congress--an event of a worldwide historical scale and significance--convincingly demonstrated the Soviet people's historic achievements, the party's indestructible unity and its unbreakable links with the masses.

The CPSU Central Committee accountability report, delivered at the congress by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, is an outstanding document of creative Marxism-Leninism and a weighty new contribution to the theory and practice of scientific communism.

Today the whole republic is seething with creative work to implement the congress's historic decisions.

In the countenance of Georgia in 1981 you can clearly see features of the future, features of the communist tomorrow, and in resolving tasks of today--the time of socialism, we are gradually moving toward tomorrow--the time of communism.

As has happened all over our country, in Soviet Georgia over the last 60 years the socialist way of life has become firmly established--it accumulates within itself collectivism and comradeship, cohesion and friendship between all nations and ethnic groups and is the embodiment of the moral health, spiritual strength and staunchness of those who are building communism. In educating the person of the new, communist mold, Georgia's communists draw strength and a moral example from the titanic activity of our party's combat staff and its Politburo headed by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, that outstanding continuer of the cause of Lenin and the great October Socialist Revolution and tireless champion of Leninist friendship between peoples. The important party documents adopted on L.I. Brezhnev's initiative during the last decade on our republic and on the Georgian party organization continue the Leninist tradition of concern for Georgia, inspire the republic's with new strength and rally the working people still more closely around the Leninist party in a single movement of the whole people toward communism.

This cohesion and this determination to march forward and achieve more and more new successes were demonstrated by the 26th Georgian CP Congress. At the republic's communist party congress the 10th 5-year plan was described as one of the best in the whole of Soviet Georgia's history, and the past decades a time of unprecedented socioeconomic transformations.

"Things are going fine in Georgia," Leonid Ilich Brezhnev has said, "and it is a very good thing that the Georgian CP is gearing itself to new achievements in the 11th 5-year plan."

Things are going fine in Georgia--and that is the result of the party's truly Leninist concern for working people in the Georgian SSR and for the harmonious development of all its autonomous formations, which are now really flourishing. In the Abkhazskaya ASSR, the Adzharskaya ASSR and Yugo-Osetinskaya Autonomous Oblast today, the construction of new industrial enterprises, housing, schools, hospitals and cultural institutions is under way at an accelerated rate, new superhighways are being constructed, resorts are being provided with amenities and tremendous changes are taking place in the countryside.

The report goes on to report in detail on the stages of the formation and strengthening of the Georgian CP and the formation of Soviet power in the republic.

By the beginning of 1920--a year of decisive victories for the Red Army on the civil war fronts--the question of the last, decisive battle of the working people of Azerbaijan, Armenia and Georgia against their antipopular governments was on the agenda. The address adopted by the Caucasian Regional Committee of the Russian Communist Party (Bolsheviks) to the All-Russian Central Executive Committee, the Council of People's Commissars, the Communist International and the Red Army said:

"...we have unshakable confidence and a firm conviction that Soviet worker-peasant Russia, the Communist International and the valiant Red Army will not remain

indifferent witnesses to our unequal struggle against the combined yellow and black counterrevolution [meaning unknown; possibly a reference to external and internal counterrevolution] and will actively help us to free ourselves from the power of capital."

The voice of the working people of the Transcaucasus was heard. On the instructions of Vladimir Ilich Lenin units of the 11th Red Army entered the bounds of Georgia on 17 February 1921. On 18 February the Georgian Revolutionary Committee appealed to workers, peasants, soldiers and all working people to overthrow the Menshevik government and take power in their own hands. The workers rose up and, with the support of the 11th Red Army units, went into a decisive offensive. On the night of 24-25 February the Menshevik government fled from Tbilisi. By noon on 25 February the working people's armed uprising was completed victoriously. On the same day a telegram signed by Sergo Ordzhonikidze was sent to Moscow, addressed to V.I. Lenin and I.V. Stalin: "The red banner flies over Tiflis...Long live Soviet Georgia!"

On 26 February the Georgian Revolutionary Committee issued an order on its full assumption of state power. On the same day the first worker-peasant government of Soviet Georgia was formed.

The entire history of the struggle for the revolutionary transformation, creation and development of socialist Georgia is associated with the name and activity of V.I. Lenin. Displaying great attention toward the Georgian working people's struggle for freedom and happiness, Lenin systematically gave them invaluable assistance and in essence directed that struggle.

The party has preserved and augmented the tradition of Leninist attention and concern toward our republic. Clear evidence of this is provided by the Leninist concern and Leninist attention toward the development of each union republic on the part of our Leninist Party's Central Committee and the Central Committee Politburo and on the part of Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev. The working people of Soviet Georgia regard his warm, sincere letters and clear and specific instructions as a practical continuation of V.I. Lenin's concern for the development of the Transcaucasian republics and Soviet Georgia.

That is why the Georgian working people, like all the peoples of our multinational country, experience feelings of sincere love and profound respect toward the leader of the world proletariat; that is why the wise foreign and domestic policy of Lenin's party enjoys such firm support today; that is why the arrival of our dearest guest, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, in the republic is always so welcome.

The report goes on to show the development of Soviet Georgia's production forces, the republic's contribution to the victory of the land of the Soviets in the great patriotic war and its participation in the restoration of cities and villages in the USSR.

In general by the early sixties the role of industry in the republic's national economy had become a leading role, and it determined the development of all sectors of the republic's economy. The Georgian Communist Party, true to Ilich's precepts and cemented by the CPSU's leading role, directed the working people's main efforts

toward increasing labor productivity and production efficiency and ensuring the fuller satisfaction of society's requirements for goods in everyday demand.

At the same time during that period, the report notes, a certain deviation was observed in the republic from the Leninist principles and norms of party, state, economic and public life and from the principles of democratic centralism and criticism and self-criticism, and this could not fail to have a negative effect on social production.

The CPSU and its Central Committee, following the Leninist traditions of intensive attention toward the deeds and concerns of communists in Soviet Georgia, arrived at a principled assessment of the situation which had arisen. In February 1972, on Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's personal initiative, the CPSU Central Committee adopted the resolution on the Tbilisi Party Gorkom--a historic resolution for the republic which has a vivid expression of the party's consistent course elaborated at the CPSU Central Committee October (1964) Plenum. This document defined the principal direction of organizational and political work by the republic's party organization in the period of the seventies.

That period was a time of restoration and establishment everywhere of the Leninist norms of life, of uncompromising struggle against all kinds of antisocial phenomena and for the improvement of the moral and psychological climate in all spheres of public life.

That period was a time of rapid upsurge in Soviet Georgia's economy and of overcoming substantial laggardness in a whole series of important indicators compared with the average union level, a time of implementation of profound qualitative transformations in the organization and administration of the national economic complex, of a complete turn toward the real problems and needs of working people.

On the basis of the historic decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress, the Georgian Communist Party, true to the word it pledged to the party and people at the 26th Congress, is now launching great work aimed at accelerating the creation of the material and technical base of communism and at forming the production forces of a communist society.

From the invaluable Leninist instructions to develop the rich region's production forces with all our might to the bold program for accelerating the building of the material and technical base of communism--such is the heroic path that has been traveled by the working people in Soviet Georgia's socialist industry, together with all the Soviet people, over 60 glorious years. Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's inspiring words to the effect that things are going fine in Georgia, the high assessment of the activity of the republic's communists given at the 26th CPSU Congress and the high patriotic mood of working people aimed at achieving record targets in the economy--these are the guarantee of new victories to come, of successful progress along the most tried and tested, true path--the Leninist path.

A special section is devoted to the transformation of the Georgian countryside and the successful implementation of interfarm cooperation and agroindustrial integration. The report stresses that a clear-cut program for the development of the country's agriculture is provided in the historic CPSU Central Committee and USSR

Council of Ministers resolution "on measures to increase production of southern and subtropical crops and further accelerate the development of agriculture in the Georgian SSR" adopted in 1979 on Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's initiative. The implementation of the tasks set in this important document will enable the republic's rural workers to storm new heights in economic and social development. In the current 5-year plan they are to raise average annual tea production to 466,000 tons, grape production to 1.1 million tons, fruit production to 620,000 tons, citrus production to 238,000 tons, potato production to 470,000 tons, vegetable production to 660,000 tons, grain production to 740,000 tons, meat production to 160,000 tons, milk production to 710,000 tons, egg production to 850 million and so forth. This rate of agricultural development in the republic will ensure a sharp increase in its contribution to the formation of the All-Union Food Fund, the strengthening and further development of the Georgian agroindustrial complex.

The 26th CPSU Congress elaborated a broad social program strikingly characterizing potential of mature socialism. And the Georgian CP is directing its efforts toward its implementation. The Georgian SSR will see per capita social consumption funds rise from R368 to R462 in the current 5-year plan and to R553 in the 12th 5-year plan. The Georgian CP Central Committee and the republic's government have elaborated and are consistently implementing measures to improve housing conditions for the republic's population and to develop medical and trade services and social security for the inhabitants of Soviet Georgia.

Describing the role of Georgian scientists in the development of Soviet science the report draws the following conclusion: It can confidently be said that a sound scientific and technical foundation has been created in Soviet Georgia for the successful implementation of the tasks set by the 26th CPSU Congress for the 11th 5-year plan and the eighties as a whole.

Soviet Georgia's lofty spiritual culture, the report says, is one of the chief gains of its 60 years and it now rings out loud and clear as one of the mighty streams of Soviet socialist culture, owing its birth to lasting national peace and the Leninist friendship of the peoples.

In all its organizational and political activity to implement Lenin's nationalities policy and the international education of working people the Georgian CP relies on the party's collective experience and takes into account the demands of the CPSU program, the constitutions of the USSR, the SSR and the autonomous republics in Georgia and the CPSU Central Committee resolution on further improving ideological and political-educational work.

A great deal of attention is being paid to Russian--the language of intercourse between nations. The situation is as follows: Along with his native language every inhabitant of the republic must master Russian--the language of the fraternity of all USSR peoples, the language of October, the language of Lenin. Without considerable mastery of Russian it is impossible to educate fully-fledged cadres of national economic specialists and cultural workers, and with its help each people's national treasurehouse becomes the common property of all the peoples.

In implementing the course toward correctly combining national traits with general Soviet traits, effecting the mutual enrichment of the people's spiritual life,

developing national statehood and refining the democratic foundations of society, the Georgian CP and the republic's working people are contributing to the natural flow of the objective process of the flourishing and drawing together of nations and are strengthening fraternity and friendship among all the country's peoples even more.

Our ill-wishers and ideological enemies abroad ignore the dialectics of the formation of the Soviet people and spread fabrications maintaining that the development of the historic community of people in our country is taking place against the background of the disappearance of nations, that the aim of the CPSU's nationalities policy is to suppress national features and that is characterized by "Russification" aspirations. These arguments are clearly absurd.

The Georgian people are filled with profound gratitude to the great Russian people for their selfless assistance and support and for their friendship, unprecedented in the history of mankind.

Yes, internationalism is our credo, our banner, our way of life. But, at the same time, we are patriots. There is no contradiction here for patriotism and internationalism are indissoluble in a society where the welfare of each becomes the welfare of all.

Now that the Soviet people have spent 36 years living and working under a peaceful sky their profound patriotism and internationalism are most strikingly expressed in selfless, heroic labor and in the strengthening of the country's economic and defensive might.

The front line did not run through Georgian territory, but the line of the exploit ran through its every city and settlement, its every house and its every heart. Around 700,000 Georgian troops fought in the great patriotic war.

The combat friendship of 18th army Commander Konstantin Nikolayevich Leselidze and 18th army political section Chief Leonid Ilich Brezhnev was tempered in the great battles. Leonid Ilich found warm and emotive words to describe his combat friend:

"I remember Konstantin Leselidze as the embodiment of the best national traits of the Georgian people. He had vitality and courage, he treated enemies harshly and friends generously, he was a man of honor, a man of his word, he was quick-witted and warm-hearted." These words are all the more significant since they come from a man endowed with complete humanity, one who is aware of the significance of tremendous ordeals and of the strong morale of people striving for a common lofty goal. These traits are also demonstrated by a telegram from the southern front to the Georgian CP (Bolsheviks) Central Committee which said that there were many Georgian troops in the front units and that there was an urgent need to publish in Georgian and dispatch to the active army a mass edition of the collection of appeals to the people and to the army and orders of the State Defense Committee. The telegram was signed by Brigade Commissar L.I. Brezhnev.

Leonid Ilich's words about K. Leselidze penetrate the very essence of the national character. But, at the same time, they epitomize Sovietwide, nationwide traits instilled by the party and clearly manifested during the great patriotic war.

Never before in the history of the Georgian CP, the report says, has there been such intensive concern and attention from the CPSU Central Committee and Soviet government as in the seventies when a number of fundamental resolutions were adopted on Georgia. Particularly significant was the 1972 resolution "on the organizational and political work of the Tbilisi Georgian CP Gorkom in fulfilling the decisions of the 24th CPSU Congress," an historic resolution for the republic. This party document, a very important one for us, was based on Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's advice and critical remarks during his visits to Soviet Georgia in 1966 and 1971.

Through its wise party words and specific deeds the CPSU Central Committee helped the Georgian communists to enhance their authority in the party and their prestige in the country. Not one success, even the most insignificant, went unnoticed. Four years later a second resolution, a milestone for us, was adopted on Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's initiative: "On the course of the Georgian party organization's fulfillment of the CPSU Central Committee resolution on the organizational and political work of the Tbilisi Party Gorkom" in which the party's Leninist combat staff rated highly the work done by the communists of Soviet Georgia.

In all these decisions Georgian working people see the titanic labor of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, head of our party and of the Soviet state. His purposefulness, boundless optimism and realism, vision and class principledness, philanthropy and veracity have earned him solid prestige as a great organizer of communist building whom the 17 million strong army of Soviet communists and the 260 million strong Soviet people follow.

Thanks to the assistance and support of the CPSU Central Committee and Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, the Georgian working people successfully stormed another height on the path to communism--they fulfilled ahead of schedule the targets of the 10th 5-year plan.

Like all other Soviet people the republic's working people are perfectly well aware that creative labor is possible only under a peaceful sky. Herein lies the clear and, at the same time, majestic purpose of all our party's foreign policy activity. These goals underlie the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress. In advancing the peace program for the eighties the CPSU is fully resolved to do all it can to keep the sky above our planet clear. The policy of peace and peaceful coexistence is our state's principled, consistent and invariable course.

The Georgian communist party is a combat detachment of the CPSU. There were just over 9,000 communists in Georgia in 1921--now there are more than 350,000. Each of them is a steadfast fighter for the great Leninist party. The Georgian CP today is the nucleus of the republic's entire social and political system.

The republic's Leninist Komsomol is the Georgian CP's loyal helper and reliable reserve.

On the republic's radiant jubilee we assure the Leninist Central Committee of our party, the Central Committee Politburo, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and the entire Soviet people that the seventh decade in the history of Soviet Georgia and its communist party will be a major historic step in the attainment of new goals in social and economic progress and a new contribution to the prosperity of our great fatherland--the USSR.

CSO: 1800/467

REGIONAL

KIRGIZ OFFICIAL LINKS WAY OF LIFE TO DISPELLING RELIGIOUS INFLUENCES

Moscow NAUKA i RELIGIYA in Russian No 4, Apr 81 pp 6-9

[Article by O. Brushlinskaya based on interview with Barpy Ryspayev, secretary of the Oshskaya Oblast Committee of the Kirgiz CP: "'Creating a Bright and Happy Everyday Life ...'"]

[Text] All religions pay particular attention to everyday life, the way of life in the family, and to standards of behavior in the home and in public, but probably none of them has intertwined itself so closely with the entire way of life of its followers as Islam. This religion is often referred to as an everyday religion, which, of course, is not an exhaustive description, but it does accurately take note of its specific nature. Islam does regulate everyday life, it establishes standards in human relations, it defines the rules of behavior in literally all life's situations and in family relations, it prescribes how food is to be prepared, how the rooms are to be arranged in the home, and so on. These rules, which are set down in the Koran and the shari'a, have preserved the Moslem way of life through long centuries, and in the traditional Islamic areas in our country it was preserved almost inviolable for a rather long time even after the victory of Soviet power. The socialist transformations which have been accomplished in all the spheres of life of the peoples of Central Asia and other regions where Moslems lived brought about a radical break with the old way of life. This has had tremendous importance to overcoming Islam in the spiritual life of the former Moslem areas. But it is well known that everyday life and family life are less subject to changes than other spheres of life, particularly in rural areas. This is where the remnants of the past hold on more strongly, and, persisting in everyday life, they also have an influence on other domains of life. That is why even today atheistic education of the population and shaping the materialistic world view are most intimately bound up with raising the level of culture of everyday life and with reorganizing it on a new foundation. In one of his statements A. V. Lunacharskiy noted that to overcome religion once and for all "it is necessary to first create a bright and

happy everyday life." How is that process going forward in the regions where for many centuries Islam has had strong roots and traditions, regions such as the south of Kirgizia, that part of the Fergana Valley where the republic's Oshakaya Oblast is located? Barpy Ryspayev, secretary of the Oshakaya Oblast Committee of the Kirgis CP, spoke about this with our correspondent O. Brushlinskaya.

In our oblast there are quite a few towns, settlements and aily where the culture of everyday life has risen sharply in recent years, and this has been manifested in the appearance of the streets and houses, in the new features of the way of life, in the multiethnic nature of everyday life, and in the way people live. Take, for example, the settlement of "Kyzyl-Dzhar" Sovkhoz in Leninskiy Rayon. It was among the best 30 rural settlements in the country and was awarded a first-degree certificate and first prize and gold medal of the USSR Exhibition of Achievements of the National Economy on the basis of results in the All-Union Review Competition for the best urban development and social amenities.

This sovkhoz is a solid farm. In the years of the 10th Five-Year Plan it earned more than 8 million rubles of profit. The management of the sovkhoz has been sensible in handling its income, knowing that a further growth of income depends among other things on the living conditions of the workers and their families and on the organization of their everyday life and leisure. The settlement has a plan of socioeconomic development. Incidentally, I should note that in our oblast such plans have been compiled and are being successfully carried out by 10 cities and rayons and more than 50 enterprises, kolkhozes and sovkhozes. Among other tasks they provide for radical improvement of the everyday life of the population and broad introduction of new rituals and holidays.

Achievement of the social development plans benefits the people greatly. This is evident if we take the "Kyzyl-Dzhar" Sovkhoz as an example. A water supply system was laid in the settlement, hot water has been brought to the homes, and the streets have been paved with asphalt. A nursery school was built according to the best designs, a shopping center has been set up, and a center for consumer services was opened. Shepherds, fieldworkers, machinery operators and the officeworkers of the sovkhoz--all live in houses which have conveniences. Glance into any house and you see gas ranges, washing machines, refrigerators, television sets and radios. The settlement also has a hospital and medical stations, a cultural center which seats 500, a movie theater which seats 600, a secondary school and an 8-year elementary school, as well as a stadium.

This highly civilized daily life has had a beneficial effect on labor productivity and people's interest in the results of their labor. And all that in turn influences the character of social consciousness and leaves less and less room in it for remnants of the past. When working and living conditions are good, people's creative abilities are revealed more fully; they devote more time to reading, to study, to personal relations, to meetings with interesting people and to bringing up their children. And after all does not all of this shape an educated and broad-thinking personality? Can the propositions of religion play the principal role in the life of such an individual? The pattern of life, for example, of workers on

the sovkhos such as Zh. Sheraliyev, Hero of Socialist Labor, and the distinguished graingrowers B. Berakbayev, Sh. Nazaraliyev, T. Tashmamatov, B. Tashbayev, A. Abyshov and K. Zhorobekov, gives a definite answer to this question.

There are, of course, cases when the house does have a television set, and the people read, and yet the remnants of the previous family life are preserved, and religious rites are observed. But experience shows that as a rule the remnants are preserved more frequently and more stubbornly where daily life is lagging behind the contemporary pace, where houses are set off from the outside world by high duvalli [walls], where there are no clubs, movie theaters or libraries.... But not many such places have persisted in our oblast, and in the current 5-year period plans of social development will reach them as well.

Our party and government has always paid particular attention to improving everyday life, to making life more civilized, taking as their point of departure Lenin's principle that the principal goal of the socialist society's development is ensuring "complete well-being and free comprehensive development of all members of society."^{*}

We are now close to complete fulfillment of that goal, but back 60 years ago it might have seemed a fantasy in view of the conditions in Central Asia.

In a discussion of how the socialist way of life, which promotes comprehensive development of the personality, is taking shape today, we cannot fail to recall where everything began with us. One needs to imagine, at least in general outlines, the pattern of life of the city of Osh and the favored neighboring places in the Fergana Valley, which now make up our oblast, at the time of the Great October Revolution and indeed in the first years after the triumph of Soviet power.

Southern Kirgizia was one of the most backward districts of Russia, where feudal relations and the tribal and patriarchal way of life had persisted. Everyday life did not differ in the least from the Middle Ages. The hunger, poverty and spiritual enslavement of the people, the exhausting labor, the isolation from the whole world, superstition and prejudice--these were the typical traits of that life. We know that in a matter of decades this region was to travel the road from tribal and feudal relations to socialism; from a nomadic and seminomadic economy to a settled way of life; from primitive and medieval implements to a highly industrialized economy; from utter illiteracy and benightedness to universal education and a high level of science and culture.

But at that time this future had hardly begun. Matters became complicated still more by a peculiarity of our region. Up to that time Osh had for several centuries played the role of a large religious center and was a kind of Central-Asian Mecca. Every year a great number of pilgrims set out for Suleyman-ghora, located within the Osh city limits, bearing gifts to the "prophet" Suleyman-ibn-Daud, who supposedly lived here somewhere and performed miracles, and now his spirit has settled here in order to help people. A great many mullahs, imams [original reads "ishany"], preachers and healers of various kinds, and beggars ("bakhshi") lived in Osh, and

^{*} V. I. Lenin, "Polnoye sobraniye sochineniy" [Complete Works], Vol 6, p 232.

new mosques were being built all the time. There were more than 100 here by 1917. Fifty-four Islamic secondary schools were in operation. The religious situation in the city had an effect on the entire way of life.

With the help of the other fraternal republics Kirgizia has been transformed into a socialist republic, the most profound social transformations have been accomplished, and they have become the basis for a transformation of the people's spiritual life. The cultural revolution which has been accomplished along with the economic and social transformations has altered people's consciousness and has diminished the role and influence of religious institutions. Socialism has created the Kirgis intelligentsia--now in practically every home there are people with higher education, and their personal example, their opinion and their views are having a very substantial influence on the everyday life of the family. Today there are more than 80,000 specialists with higher and secondary specialized education in the oblast, and it is significant that half of them are women.

One needs only to see the appearance of ancient Osh today to imagine the magnificent changes in its way of life that have taken place in the years of Soviet power. This is a major industrial center whose reputation was made not by Suleyman-gora, but by the republic's largest silk combine, the Kirgis Textile Combine, by various enterprises in metal manufacturing and the food industry, by the pedagogical institute, and by the branch of the Frunze Polytechnical Institute. Along the level streets which are well lighted in the evening stretch contemporary houses, and there are many squares, gardens and parks. The appearance of the city, its ways, and the pattern of its life are doing much to shape contemporary young people. Everywhere the clubs, theaters, moviehouses, open-air theaters and recreation areas are full, and there is life in the streets and squares.

It is also interesting to look at Suleyman-gora today. Here a museum of regional culture has been set up; the building's architecture is original, resembling what might be built in the mountains. The exhibits, whose selection is knowledgeable and tasteful, evoke serious reflection. In the museum one can see articles from the old way of life which eloquently tell the story of how difficult that way of life was and the kind of effort and time it required. At the foothills of the mountains there is a forest park, and an artificial lake is being created. Do pilgrims come here to honor Suleyman? Yes, of course, but now there are far fewer of those who believe in the "prophet's" power to work miracles. Moreover, many of them, having performed all the rites, visit the museum and even take part in the large-scale events that are organized here. There has been a sharp drop in the demand for charlatans and healers. After all, hospitals and visits by physicians have become a solid part of the everyday life of these people, and the healers have left the mountains which until quite recently was paradise on earth for them.

The walls (duvali) in the city are long gone, they disappeared gradually, and no one has missed them. Now the entire family goes out onto the balcony to drink tea. If all this had been shown to any orthodox imam 60 years ago, he would have decided that the end of the world had come.

In rural localities walls around yards persisted almost everywhere until recently. Some of them were several meters high. Nearly a third of the entire cost of building the house went to erect this enclosure. In former times it was not allowed to

ride here even on a camel--no one was supposed to see what was happening behind the walls. In short, they were always a symbol of being closed off and shut off from the world, of the psychology of private ownership, which is closely bound up with religious remnants.

Comprehensive plans for socioeconomic development of rayons have also called for imparting a beautiful appearance to settlements, and that is not consistent with these enclosed yards at all. Explanatory work has begun. In the settlement Uch-Kurgan consultations were held with the elders, and the owners of the yards were asked what the purpose of the walls was. This village had had a very unappealing appearance from time immemorial, and there was even a threatening saying: "I will show you Uch-Kurgan." Yet at the beginning of the 10th Five-Year Plan it was the Uch-Kurganites who were the initiators of the movement for highly civilized daily life and for planned reorganization of settlements. Then a holiday celebrating liberation from the yard walls was held here with songs and music and speeches by the elders, who told how much that was ugly and evil had in former times been hidden by those walls....

Uch-Kurgan is now a beautiful village, the saying is out of date. There are new asphalt-paved streets, along them--nice, bright picket fences, handsome trees, shrubs, and flowers alongside the houses. Three kindergartens and a new secondary school have been built. In the 5-year period the kolkhoz members built 500 dwellings to standard designs. The initiative of the Uch-Kurganites has been supported throughout the oblast, and the movement to build maximum amenities everywhere for people's life and work has become widespread.

Since that time many of the oblast's settlements have come close to the city in their external appearance and way of life. For instance, the street of the principal homestead on the "Kommunizm" Kolkhoz in Suzakskiy Rayon is a broad highway paved with asphalt that is well lighted in the evenings. They have a new brick building for the kolkhoz board, a library, a coffeehouse, an inn, and self-service has been introduced in the spacious new stores. At the end of the street is the village park, where excellent facilities have been built to the delight of the children. In the field camps of this kolkhoz there are recreation rooms with color television sets, books and newspapers. People on the kolkhoz are especially proud that there are now nurseries in the field camps. During their rest time the women can see their children, who have wonderful conditions. This is like the benchmark of the new way of life, and the women can learn a great deal from observing this. People are coming to this kolkhoz from other farms because of their experience in organizing field camps.

In Suzakskiy Rayon worthwhile experience has been acquired in socioeconomic development and construction of cultural facilities. In 1977 the party obkom approved this effort on the part of the Suzakites and recommended that local agencies and work collectives study their experience. In the years of the last 5-year period the rayon saw qualitative changes in living and working conditions and toward more civilized daily life, the location of production and production know-how improved considerably, the educational level of the population increased, medical service improved, more consumer services were provided, and so on. In the 11th Five-Year Plan all rayons and settlements, enterprises, kolkhozes and sovkhoses in our oblast will have this kind of plan of socioeconomic development.

To me it seems important to the topic of our interview to note still another orientation in reorganizing everyday life and making it more civilized: it has enormous importance in liberating the woman from the burdens of the household and to involving her in production and civil life and cultural measures. When a woman sits at home, she is removed from the outside world, she is entirely immersed in the cares of the household, she never reads books or goes to a club or the moviehouse (often this even arouses the objections of the family), nor does she listen to the radio. She does not keep pace with life, and can remain prey for a long time to religious remnants, and she will even bring up her children according to the Moslem canons, preserving outdated traditions.

Expansion of the network of children's institutions, improvement of medical service, educational work, and augmentation of consumer services are all important to overcoming religious ideology among women. Of course, explanatory work should also be carried on with the men: so that they help the women doing housework, bringing up the children, so that they go with them to the movies and to visit. Unfortunately, we have quite recently had cases when a husband would go to be treated and to rest on the basis of a sanatorium voucher issued to his wife in the kolkhoz, sovkhos or enterprise. Other men have a psychological difficulty in allowing the woman out of the house; not uncommonly the Moslem dogmas instilled since childhood and the requirements of the shari'a are still operative here. And even though this man is not religious, in his everyday life, in his relations to his wife, and in his actions there may be manifestations of religious remnants.

Particular attention is being constantly paid to rural women in our educational work; we are striving by various methods to develop their consciousness so that those of them who believe in Allah will doubt the soundness of religious institutions, will be able to receive atheistic knowledge, and will raise families without Moslem rituals. We have women's councils in every one of our rayons; they are carrying on purposive educational activity in which atheistic education is an organic and necessary part. Lectures and discussions on atheistic topics, as well as evenings and encounters with interesting people have become part of the rural way of life. Propaganda and educational work with women, when based on significant socioeconomic transformations in the rural area, will yield good results.

Take the "Rossiya" Kolkhoz in Naukatskiy Rayon as an example. There the problems of socioeconomic and cultural development are being solved in a comprehensive and planned way, a coordinating council has been set up on ways of making everyday life more civilized. T. Zulpiyev, chairman of this kolkhoz, has told me that a questionnaire was distributed on the kolkhoz in which people were asked to say how they would like to organize their everyday life, what sort of relations they would like to build in the families and with neighbors. Many people were interested, it turned out, in how to improve the furnishing of their dwelling and make it more convenient, and they mentioned a place to study and read books and newspapers. They also spoke about wanting to dress nicely and comfortably and keep up with the fashion. Many would thus like to alter relations in the family so that general conversations and talks would become customary, so that greater attention would be paid to one another, to the wife and the mother, so that the making and receiving of visits would be more frequent, and to arrange family outings.... These would seem to be ordinary desires, but until quite recently they were not typical of the

former Kirgiz way of life, but indeed were out of the ordinary. But now they are being worked out within the framework of social development plans as everyday life becomes more civilized.

I am convinced: the new way of life will not come in and of itself; it has to be consciously built according to plan and so as to take into account all the factors of our life. It is not only those responsible for ideology who have devoted quite a bit of concern to this. Just take these desires expressed by kolkhoz members. It is our duty to further their practical realization. This will yield wonderful results in the field of communist indoctrination as well.

Another interesting and important question related to the problem of the new way of life and its effect in overcoming the remnants of the past are family celebrations and rituals. As we have already said, it is within the bosom of the family that Moslem rites, customs and habits hold on with particular strength. It is still not uncommon for the birth of a child, a wedding or a funeral to be commemorated with religious services, especially in rural localities. There are quite a few people who regard such Islamic holidays as Lesser Bairam and Greater Bairam as an inseparable feature of their ethnic identity. This also reinforces remnants of religion in everyday life.

The only way to overcome such views, habits and traditions is to introduce new socialist rituals into everyday life. This matter requires particular attention and careful treatment and preparation. These holidays should satisfy people's emotional needs and give them more excitement and joy than the religious holidays, not less. There is much here yet to be done. In our rayons councils have already been set up for the new rituals. In Uzgenskiy Rayon, for example, where this initiative started, there are already dozens of them. But we must admit that they are not performing their mission everywhere, and sometimes their existence is only a formality.

Much is being done here by our councils of elders, who are especially concerned with organizing family outings and holidays celebrated by entire villages. It is to their credit that many old-fashioned rituals accompanying, for example, the birth of a child, a wedding, and so on, have now been given up in rural areas. Before people were afraid to depart from the old customs, and sometimes public opinion in the village condemned those who departed from them. But when the elders explained in village meetings that the time had come to change many customs, that this would not be a violation of ethnic traditions at all, that these customs have nothing to do with the contemporary way of life, people easily gave them up.

But you cannot create a new holiday in a vacuum. It arises as an expression of new tendencies in the way of life.

In our oblast, for example, an interesting initiative recently came about and became widespread--the creation of maidens' brigades. These brigades sprang up in our oblast a few years ago on the initiative of the young girls themselves, who wanted to work independently and to display their opportunities and abilities more fully. They soon achieved the highest labor productivity on kolkhozes. It seems to be a question of the special atmosphere of liveliness, of good feeling, and of

the excellent moral climate that is characteristic of these groups. In spring and summer the girls work in the fields, but in the winter they do not dissolve, but find work for themselves repairing the dwellings of kolkhoz members, and they work as a group helping families in the household and in setting up the new way of life. And they all live together year-round, in dwellings they have fitted out themselves, since the girls come to these brigades from remote settlements. The parents come to visit them--the best room in the girls' dwelling has been set aside for them. In short, this is an original form of the new way of life, one whose specific features have been determined by local conditions.

The maidens' brigades are a good school not only for production know-how, but also for socialist ethics and an active attitude toward life. In the spring and fall they come to Osh for a holiday that has already become a tradition. Here they honor achievers, celebrate their work, and then the girls display their talents in art. The elders, who at one time might have condemned their daughters or granddaughters for appearing on stage in front of the entire world, are unfailing members of the audience at these reviews. This holiday does more than dozens of other measures to indoctrinate the girls, to restructure their psychology and to shape the new attitude toward women.

Public walks in rest areas created at places that were once sacred have now become a tradition in our oblast on national holidays. I have already spoken about Suleyman-gora; there are also such areas in Uzenskiy and other rayons. After all, as a rule the former shrines are beautiful natural spots which are good resting places.

I would also like to recall a new feature of our everyday life. N. G. Poroshchay, director of the "Oktyabr'skiy" Winery Sovkhoz, spoke about it at one of the meetings of the oblast aktiv. This is a multinational sovkhaz; its workers include Kirgizes, Russians, Uzbeks, Ukrainians, Azerbaijanis, Kurds, Germans and Tatars. It is a rich farm, the people live well, and they work as close comrades. It is interesting that they borrow each other's various ethnic traditions and customs and the best features of the everyday life of different peoples. Everyday life on the kolkhoz is multinational, and the traits of the ethnic culture are being carefully preserved. For example, everyone here loves to sing Ukrainian songs; the Germans are masters at drawing up the family budget, they teach the young people of all nationalities; Uzbek duck is the best dish in every house, and so on. Nor are there traces of any sort of aloofness in everyday life; everybody goes to visit everybody else. Even though the shari'a prohibits Moslems from eating at the same table with unbelievers and prescribes a great number of restrictions in this area.

One might cite many more examples of how our Soviet way of life, the new way of life, a more civilized life are weakening and neutralizing the influence of religion and are promoting people's communist indoctrination. As we see, the change of everyday life, and at the same time of views, habits and customs related to it--is a problem directly bound up with performing national economic and cultural tasks which our party has set for us. And we constantly remember that this is also the way to overcome the remnants of the past, that otherwise it is impossible to shape the new man--the builder of communist society.

During the preparation for the 26th CPSU Congress our party organization once again made a thorough analysis of everything we had done in the domain of communist indoctrination. Everything was deemed important: the strengthening of patriotic and ethnic traditions, people's ethical improvement, the introduction of new rituals and holidays, the further formation of the scientific outlook and atheistic convictions, and the strengthening of work collectives. The 11th Five-Year Plan will be filled with strenuous work and new achievements on behalf of communism for the workers of our oblast, as it will be for the entire Soviet people.

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7045

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REGIONAL

KOLKHOZ OFFERS PAY INCENTIVES TO IMPROVE PRODUCTION

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 May 81 p 3

[Article by I. Pereverzev, chairman of the Kolkhoz imeni Kirov, Hero of Socialist Labor, candidate of economic science, Kanevskiy Rayon, Krasnodarskiy Kray, under the rubric "Attention: Expertise": "Based on Standards"]

[Text] Delegations from other rayons have been visiting us often in recent years. They are interested in the farm. Of course, it is enjoyable to talk about the achievements of our collective. Kolkhoz production increased markedly during the last five-year plan. Average annual gross output was increased from 9 to 12.7 million rubles. Compared to the previous five-year plan, grain yield increased from 30 to 36 quintals per hectare, vegetables—from 279 to 470 quintals, and sugar beets—from 298 to 420 quintals. Milk yields per cow were increased 400 kilograms.

Naturally, the first question asked is how we managed to achieve such growth. There is no simple answer. Many factors have played a role. But in the unanimous opinion of the collective, the comprehensive system for raising production efficiency (KSPEP) has become a main one. What is it? I shall cite several examples to give a better understanding of it.

Growing sugar beets is our most labor-intensive process. Almost 1,300 hectares of these beets have to be cultivated manually. Over a thousand people have to be drawn into this work. We used to have 120 to 150 people of various occupations and ages go out to a field. Though in the field, the agronomist could not, of course, keep track of who did what and how much was done and how. Many cultivated in a hurry to meet the quota. After such tillage, weeds grew even faster, and the crops had to be looked after a second time that was even more difficult than the first.

And not only the temporary beet weeders worked this way. The machine operator who tried to till the soil a little more thoroughly earned less than those who "tore over" the hectares. And the results: lots of input, but just an average yield—about 250 to 300 quintals on the average.

We worked out a system that eliminated this lack of personal responsibility. Each person was allotted a specific section in the sugar beet field. In the presence of the worker, ten measurements were made on the diagonal of the allotment to fully describe it. Standards were defined as the basic requirements for work: elimination of weeds (number of plants left in a running meter), looseness of soil in a row, time to fulfill the quota, etc. Evaluation was represented in a quality coupon, handed out to all, based on a ten-point system. Those who performed with excellent

quality received an extra 35 rubles, those with good quality an extra 30 rubles. There was no supplementary payment for satisfactory work. For defective work that could be cleared, payment was made only after the work was redone. And if it could not be redone, losses were recovered from the person at fault.

Standards were introduced in all operations. Soil tillage quality, for example, began to be assessed by depth, furrowing, degree of looseness, alignment of the field and plowing of the turning strips. In picking apples, what sort of standards are there really, it would seem: the fruit simply has to be removed carefully and packed. Before, the agronomist had constantly warned: "Girls, do not bruise the apples; put them in the baskets—one by one. But when the fruit was hauled to storage, almost half turned out to be bruised. We set a clear standard: 5 bruised apples out of 100 is accepted as "excellent," 10 is "good" and 25 is "satisfactory." Payment is made accordingly. And what happened? The amount of spoiled fruit was reduced several fold; labor productivity increased and the number of pickers was reduced.

Standards and specifications compel strict conformance to approved norms and requirements of technology. For example, fertilizing and irrigation is done now only on the basis of the conclusions and recommendations of the kolkhoz laboratory on the moisture and nutrient content of the soil. Biological means of protecting plants have begun to be used more extensively. Breeding has been improved and we have switched to year-round single-type and full-ration feeding of livestock. We are among the leaders in the kray in harvest equipment repair and we harvest grain within 7 to 8 calendar days.

Of course, standards and specifications, as the saying goes, will not work by themselves. To ensure their maximum effectiveness, we reviewed the economic incentive system. We pay the kolkhoz workers who have achieved the best results up to 30 percent of the value of above-plan output and up to 30 percent of the means saved. For early turnover of production facilities and with consideration of savings in building materials, builders are given a bonus of 1.5 percent of the budgetary cost of construction. As a function of results achieved, collectives of departments, farms and sections are allotted the sum total of bonuses by special payment--this binds personal and collective interest closely.

To achieve the best results, each kolkhoz worker strives to gain the foremost bonuses for labor and progressive technology and to raise his skill and knowledge. There are 890 people studying just in the school for economic education, and in all, 1,000 to 1,200 kolkhoz workers annually raise their skill, including livestock breeders, field-crop growers, machine operators, electricians, fitters, builders.... In the 10th Five-Year Plan, over 800 people were trained in one or two machine operating occupations. We created a stable reserve of machine operators for the period of intensive operations. This allowed not only reducing this period, but also raising the culture of farming.

The complex system for raising production efficiency in the best possible way encourages development of a creative attitude to labor. Results that we never even dreamed of before have become attainable. For example, Vladimir Tsvirin'ko's and Viktor Bezuglyy's teams obtained 300 to 350 quintals of sugar beets per hectare, and this was thought to be just about the limit for our zone with its insufficient moisture. But now? For three years, V. Tsvirin'ko has been averaging 602 quintals of

roots per hectare on unirrigated land, while V. Bezuglyy's team has been getting over 720 quintals on irrigated sections! The vegetable brigade headed by the RSFSR Honored Agronomist, N. Nedbaylo, averages up to 500 quintals of vegetables--1.5 to 2-fold more than before.

The overall level of culture of production has increased not just with individual leaders, but with all workers. There has been a huge increase in labor productivity. While in 1975, prior to the introduction of the complex system for raising production efficiency, each worker produced 5,135 rubles worth of produce, now in the three years this figure is 8,528 rubles. The increase, as we see, is a solid 66 percent. Produce quality has improved. Before, only one-fifth of the milk was sold as first grade, but now all of it is. We provide the state only with the "hard" grade of wheat. From the sale of it, we get an extra 230,000 to 270,000 rubles annually. The standards for vegetables, fruit and sugar beets have increased substantially and the quality of feed has improved. The average delivery weight of young cattle has reached 436 kilograms. About 80 percent of the cattle sold is of the highest fatness. The complex system covers all aspects of farm activity and all spheres of the farm worker's life.

In addition to strengthening the economic structure, major social problems have been resolved too. In recent years on the kolkhoz, we have built three general education schools, a hospital, a combination bathhouse-laundry, stores, children's establishments, a musical school, a Palace of Sports, a Palace of Culture, parks and stadiums. We laid 65 kilometers of asphalt roads that connect the central farmstead with all departments and farms. The necessity of living in field camps has passed and we bus over 2,000 workers between work and home.

I wish to stress that it is not enough to just develop standards. The system will operate actively only if ideological-educational and organizational work has been organized on a good level and competition is developed. For these purposes, we hold reviews-contests by occupations, topical evenings and mutual checks and discuss the results in meetings.

The complex system for raising production efficiency is being applied in other kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the kray too. Nevertheless, it seems it could be propagated more quickly and more extensively. After all, raising the efficiency of production and the quality of labor and produce was posed among the major problems of the country's economy at the 26th CPSU Congress. We believe that the complex system for raising production efficiency in the agricultural version is an effective tool for resolving these problems. And therefore, the introduction of it into agricultural production must be carried out systematically, persistently and in a single-minded fashion.

8545

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REGIONAL

LATVIAN COURT PLENUM EXAMINES HANDLING OF TRAFFIC OFFENSES

LDO41347 Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 21 Apr 81 p 3

[LATINFORM Report: "Latvian SSR Supreme Court Plenum"]

[Text] A Latvian SSR Supreme Court plenum has discussed, on the basis of the report delivered by B. A. Azan, chairman of the Latvian Supreme Court, the results of the Latvian SSR Supreme Court's activity for 1980 and has defined the tasks of the further improvement of court activity in the light of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the 23d Latvian CP Congress.

In the resolution it adopted the plenum acknowledged that the successful fulfillment of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the 23d Latvian CP Congress requires the further intensification of the struggle against crime and other violations of the law. The activity of the republic's supreme court in enforcing justice must promote the strengthening of socialist legality and law and order, the prevention of crimes and other violations and citizens' legal education in the spirit of their undeviating observance of Soviet laws.

The plenum examined also the question of the Latvian SSR courts' fulfillment of the directives of the USSR Supreme Court Plenum and the Latvian SSR Supreme Court Plenum on the courts' practice in examining cases involving traffic offenses [dela ob avtotransportnykh prestupleni yakh].

The plenum noted that the courts have to a certain degree improved the quality of the examination of cases involving traffic offenses.

However, in a number of instances the courts began examining cases for which the preliminary investigation to ascertain the essential circumstances connected with a traffic incident [dorozhno-transportnoye proisshestviye] is not carried out sufficiently.

The courts make few interlocutory orders aimed at eliminating the circumstances conducive to the commission of traffic offenses and make insufficient use of the educational and preventive influence of court proceedings in examining cases of this category, and only rarely do they hold visiting sessions at the place of work, study or residence of the person guilty of committing a traffic offense.

With a view to eliminating these shortcomings and improving the courts' examination of cases in this category the plenum adopted a resolution obliging the republic's courts to improve their work to prevent traffic offenses, to seek the full elucidation of the circumstances conducive to the commission of the offense and to react consistently to such circumstances. The examination of cases in this category at visiting sessions, with the involvement of representatives of the public, should be practiced more extensively.

The plenum also made a change to an earlier-adopted resolution on civil cases.

V. I. Layvin, Latvian SSR minister of justice, took part in the plenum's work.

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